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I) Problem 1:

- a) Problem analysis:
 - Write a Python program to collect footballer player statistical data in 2024-2025 English Premier League season.
 - Data source: https://fbref.com/en/
 - Requirements:
 - Collect player data who played more than 90 minutes with some statistics about Name, Team, Position, Age, Playing time, Performance, Expected, Progression, Goalkeeping, Shooting, Passing, Goal and Shot Creation, Defensive Actions, Possession and Miscellaneous Stats.
 - Save result to file results.csv with requirements: 0 Each column corresponds to а statistic. o Players are sorted alphabetically by their first name. o Any statistic that is unavailable or inapplicable should be marked "N/a" as

b) Several tools:

- Use selenium to analyze and get data from web
 - Use webdriver manager to manage drivers for Selenium
 - Use pandas to create Dataframe from players statistics and save to csv
 - Use time to wait for web loading

c) Code and	Explanation
-------------	-------------

- Firstly, I import libraries and set up a driver:

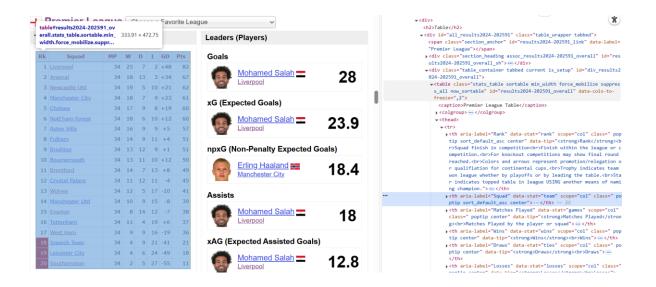
```
import time
from selenium import webdriver
from selenium.webdriver.common.by import By
from selenium.webdriver.chrome.service import Service
from selenium.webdriver.chrome.options import Options
from selenium.webdriver.support.ui import WebDriverWait
from selenium.webdriver.support import expected conditions as EC
from webdriver manager.chrome import ChromeDriverManager
import pandas as pd
def setup_driver():
        chrome options = Options()
        service = Service(ChromeDriverManager().install())
        driver = webdriver.Chrome(service=service, options=chrome_options)
        return driver
    except Exception as e:
        print(f"Failed to setup driver: {e}")
        return None
```

 After that, I get squads link from the source link: https://fbref.com/en/ by using:

```
def get_team_links(driver):
    try:
        print("Getting team links...")
        driver.get("https://fbref.com/en/")
        team_links=[]
        table=driver.find_element(By.ID,'results2024-202591_overall')
        teams=table.find_elements(By.TAG_NAME,'a')
        for team in teams:
            team_links.append(team.get_attribute('href'))
        return team_links

except Exception as e:
        print(f"Error getting team links: {e}")
        return []
```

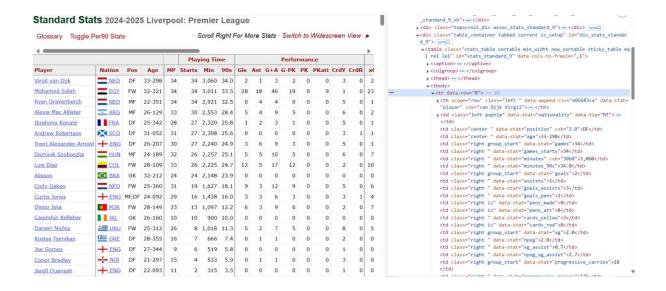
- After analysing web by driver, I used find_element(s) to find the table having squad's links. Then, I find all rows having team links by Tag_name 'a' to get 'href' attribute and put it to arr team links.



- I used get_stat function to get statistics shortly instead of using find_element every time getting stats, that will return text if text exists else 'N/a'

- After having squad's links, I will go through each link to get player data in teams.

- In this function, I created a arr player that will save a series dictionary containing each player's data.
- Firstly, I created a table thats a dict including data tables of each team.
- To get player's basic data, I will go through all rows in standard table(By.CSS SELECTOR, "tbody tr:not(.thead)")



- Then, I will filter players with playing minutes over 90, so I get their name and save their statistics to player rows.

- Continuously, I will get the rest of statistics in the other tables(goalkeeping, shooting, passing,...) and attach player's data to matched players.

```
for table_name, table in tables.items():
          if table_name == 'standard' or not table:
          # Build mapping of players in this table
          table_players = {}
                for row in table.find elements(By.CSS SELECTOR, "tbody tr:not(.thead)"):
                        player name = row.find element(By.CSS SELECTOR, "th[data-stat='player']").text.strip()
                        if player_name in player_rows:
                           if table_name == 'keeper':
                                player_rows[player_name].update({
                                      'GA90': get_stat(row, 'gk_goals_against_per90'),
'Save%':get_stat(row, 'gk_save_pct'),
'CS%': get_stat(row, 'gk_clean_sheets_pct'),
                                      'PK Save%': get_stat(row, 'gk_pens_save_pct'),
                           elif table_name == 'shooting':
                                player_rows[player_name].update({
                                     'SoT%': get_stat(row, "shots_on_target_pct"),
'SoT/90': get_stat(row, "shots_on_target_per90"),
'G/sh': get_stat(row, "goals_per_shot"),
'Dist': get_stat(row, "average_shot_distance"),
                           elif table_name == 'passing':
                                player_rows[player_name].update({
                                      'Cmp': get_stat(row, "passes_completed"),
'Cmp%': get_stat(row, "passes_pct"),
                                      'TotDist': get_stat(row, "passes_total_distance"),
                                      'Short Cmp%': get_stat(row, "passes_pct_short"),
'Medium Cmp%': get_stat(row, "passes_pct_medium"),
                                      'Long Cmp%': get_stat(row, "passes_pct_long"),
                                      'KP': get_stat(row, "assisted_shots"),
'Passing: 1/3': get_stat(row, "passes_into_final_third"),
                                      'PPA': get stat(row. "passes into penalty area").
```

- In main() function, I set up driver and get team_links, after that, I use loop for to go through all links and call scrape_team_data to get player's statistics.

```
print("Starting Premier League player data collection...")
driver = setup_driver()
if not driver:
        print("Failed to initialize WebDriver")
try:
        team_links = get_team_links(driver)
        if not team links:
                print("No team links found")
        all_players = []
        for link in team links: # Process all teams
                team_players = scrape_team_data(driver, link)
                if team_players:
                        all players.extend(team players)
                time.sleep(3)
        data_sorted = sorted(all_players, key=lambda x: x['Name'])
        df=pd.DataFrame(data_sorted,columns=[
        'Name', 'Nation', 'Team', 'Position', 'Age', 'Matches', 'Starts', 'Minutes',
        'Goals', 'Assists', 'Yellow Cards', 'Red Cards', 'Expected: xG', 'Expected: xAG', 'I' 'Gls', 'Ast', 'xG per 90', 'xGA per 90', 'GA90', 'Save%', 'CS%', 'PK Save%', 'SoT%', 'SoT/90', 'G/sh', 'Dist', 'Cmp', 'Cmp%', 'TotDist', 'Short Cmp%', 'Medium Cmp%', 'Long Cmp%', 'KP', 'Passing: 1/3', 'PPA', 'CrsPA', 'Pass', 'SCA', 'SCA90', 'GCA90', 'Tkl', 'TklW', 'Defensive: Att', 'Defensive: Lost', 'Sh', 'Pass', 'Int', 'Touches', 'Def Pen', 'Def 3rd', 'Mid 3rd', 'Att 3rd', 'Att Pen'. 'Possession: Att'. 'Succ%'. 'Tkld%'. 'Carries'. 'ProDist'. 'ProgC'.'Possession: Att'. 'Succ%'. 'Tkld%'. 'Carries'. 'ProDist'. 'ProgC'.'Possession: Att'. 'Succ%'. 'Tkld%'. 'Carries'. 'ProDist'. 'ProgC'.'Possession: Att'. 'Succ%'. 'Tkld%'. 'Carries'. 'ProDist'. 'ProgC'.'
```

- After collecting all players's data, I'll create a DataFrame and sort it by players's Name. Finally, I will fill blanks in dataFrame with 'N/a' and save to file 'results.csv'.
- d) Results:

Result will be saved in file' results.csv':



II) Problem 2:

- a) Problem analysis:
 - Identify the top 3 players with the highest and lowest scores for each statistic. Save result to a file name 'top_3.txt'
 - + Using nlargest and nsmallest to find top 3 players
 - Find the median for each statistic. Calculate the mean and standard deviation for each statistic across all players and for each team. Save the results to a file named 'results2.csv' with the following format:

		Median of	Mean of	Std of	
		Atttribute 1	Atttribute 1	Atttribute 1	
0	all				
1	Team 1				
n	Team n				

+ To solve this problem, we use median(), mean() and std() of pandas to find median, mean and standard of all players and each team, then save results to file 'results2.csv'.

 Plot a histogram showing the distribution of each statistic for all players in the league and each team.

- Identify the team with the highest scores for each statistic. Based on your analysis, which team do you think is performing the best in the 2024-2025 Premier League season?
- b) Several tools to solve:
 - Pandas
 - Matplotlib.pyplot and seaborn (to plot histogram)
 - Os(to create file)
- c) Code and Explanation:
- Find top 3 with highest and lowest score

- Initially, I will take data from the previous result, them clean data by dfclean function to choose columns having numeric statistics and reset index .(clean df from columns 7 (numeric statistics))

- I open file 'top_3.txt' as f with mode 'w' to write data. Then, I will go through columns with required statistics. In the loop, I will create a arr other_colls to save statistics not including the current stat and 'Name'.
- I re-arrange columns to display with 'Name' at first and then the current stat and the other stats.
- I used nlargest and nsmallest of pandas to find top 3 with the highest and lowest stats with the columns as display_cols
- After that, I use concat of pandas to merge 2 above datafram and add a column 'Rank' Then I set up statistics's widths to prettify and created header to display data more beautifully.

```
headers = "".join(header_parts)
f.write(headers + '\n')
f.write('-' * len(headers) + '\n')
print(headers)
print('-' * len(headers))
for index, row in combined.iterrows():
    stat_value = f"{row[stats]:.1f}" if isinstance(row[stats], (int, float)) else str(row[stats])
    row_parts = [
        f"{row['Rank']:<{col_widths['Rank']}}",
f"{row['index']:<{col_widths['Index']}}",
f"{str(row['Name'])[:col_widths['Name']]:<{col_widths['Name']}}",</pre>
        f"{stat_value:<{col_widths[stats]}}",
        f"{str(row['Nation'])[:col_widths['Nation']]:<{col_widths['Nation']}}",
        f"{str(row['Team'])[:col_widths['Team']]:<{col_widths['Team']}}",
        f"{str(row['Position'])[:col_widths['Position']]:<{col_widths['Position']}}"
    for col in other colls[5:]:
        if col != stats:
            cell_value = str(row[col])[:col_widths[col]]
             row_parts.append(f"{cell_value:<{col_widths[col]}}")</pre>
    res = "".join(row_parts)
f.write(res + '\n')
    print(res)
f.write('\n')
```

- Finally, I write header to file and go through all statistics to write to file with matched widths

Result:

1000	ait.									
Rank	Index	Name	Matches	Nation	Team	Position	Age	Starts	Minutes	Goal
 Ton	14	Alex Iwobi	34.0	NGA	Fulham	FU ME	28-361	32	0.0	9
Тор Тор	14 56	Bernd Leno	34.0	GER	Fulham	FW,MF GK	33-056	32 34	0.0	9
Тор										
Тор	66	Bruno Guimarães	34.0	BRA		MF	27-164	34	0.0	4
Bottom	45	Ayden Heaven	2.0	ENG	Manchester-United		18-219		95.0	0
Bottom	59	Billy Gilmour	2.0	SC0	Brighton-and-Hove		23-322		98.0	0
Bottom	106	Danny Ward	2.0	WAL	Leicester-City	GK	31-311		135.0	0
Rank	Index	Name	Starts	Nation	Team	Position	Age	Matches	Minutes	Goa]
тор	56	Bernd Leno	34.0	GER	Fulham	GK	33-056	34	0.0	
Тор	66	Bruno Guimarães	34.0	BRA	Newcastle-United	MF	27-164	34	0.0	
Тор	111	David Raya	34.0	ESP	Arsenal	GK	29-226	34	0.0	0
Bottom	20	Ali Al Hamadi	0.0	IRQ	Ipswich-Town	FW	23-059	11	134.0	0
Bottom	35	Antony	0.0	BRA	Manchester-United	DF,MF	25-064	8	141.0	
Bottom	48	Ben Chilwell	0.0	ENG	Crystal-Palace	DF	28-129		139.0	
Rank	Index	Name	Minutes	Nation	Team	Position	Age	Matches	Starts	Goal
 Тор	86	Christian Eriksen	994.0	DEN	Manchester-United	MF	33-074	20	11	
Тор	384	Paul Onuachu	984.0	NGA	Southampton	FW	30-336	23	11	4
Тор	420	Sammie Szmodics	979.0	IRL	Ipswich-Town	FW,MF	29-217	19	13	
Bottom		Aaron Ramsdale	0.0	ENG	Southampton	GK	26-350	26	26	
Bottom		Aaron Wan-Bissaka	0.0	ENG	West-Ham-United	DF	27-154	32	31	
Bottom		Abdoulaye Doucouré	0.0	MLI	Everton	MF	32-118	30	29	
Rank	Index	Name	Goals	Nation	Team	Position	Age	Matches	Starts	Minu
 Тор	343	Mohamed Salah	28.0	EGY	Liverpool	FW	32-318	34	34	0.0
Тор	18	Alexander Isak	22.0	SWE	Newcastle-United	FW	25-220	31	31	0.0
Top	141	Erling Haaland	21.0	NOR	Manchester-City	FW	24-282	28	28	0.0

• Find median, mean and std of all players and each team:

```
convert_age(age):
    try:
        if '-' in age:
            y, d = map(int, age.split('-'))
            return y + d / 365
        return int(age)
    except:
        return np.nan
df['Age'] = df['Age'].apply(convert_age)
def dfclean(df, stats_col):
    df cleaned = df.copy()
    for stats in stats col:
        if stats in df cleaned.columns:
            df_cleaned[stats] = pd.to_numeric(df_cleaned[stats], errors='coerce')
            df_cleaned[stats] = df_cleaned[stats].fillna(0)
    return df_cleaned
df = df.reset index()
df = dfclean(df, df.columns[6:])
team names=
for name in df['Team']:
    if not name in team names:
       team names.append(name)
team_names.sort()
```

- After reading data from results, I need to convert Age to numeric state(remove '-' in age and clean df. Then, I will take the team names and sort them in dictionary order.

```
for stat in df.columns[6:]:
    all_stats[f'Median of {stat}'] = df[stat].median()
    all_stats[f'Mean of {stat}'] = df[stat].mean()
    all_stats[f'std of {stat}'] = df[stat].std()
    results.append(all_stats)

for team in team_names:
    df_team=df[df['Team']==team]
    data={'':f"{team}"}
    for stat in df.columns[6:]:
        data[f'Median of {stat}'] = df_team[stat].median()
        data[f'Mean of {stat}'] = df_team[stat].mean()
        data[f'std of {stat}'] = df_team[stat].std()
    results.append(data)

m=pd.DataFrame(results,columns=[i for i in all_stats.keys()])
m.to_csv('results2.csv',index=True,encoding='utf-8-sig')
```

- I use median(), mean() and std() of pandas to solve the problem and save it to results.csv

		Median of Age	Mean of Age	Std of Age	Median of Matches	Mean of Matches	Std of Matches	Median of Starts	Mean of Starts
0		26.55890410958904	26.89037189967358	4.231364576874025		20.672097759674134	9.635415937275416	14.0	15.164969450101832
1	Arsenal	26.86164383561644	26.48169364881694	3.8227439047507037		22.59090909090909	7.926201822100881	16.0	17.0
2	Aston-Villa	27.61780821917808	27.123091976516633	4.035940846227701	20.0	18.857142857142858	9.965549122460303	9.5	13.357142857142858
3	Bournemouth	25.983561643835618	26.454079809410363	3.8398865412066345	25.0	21.608695652173914	9.838417881100703	17.0	16.217391304347824
4	Brentford	24.82191780821918	26.18317025440313	3.9137679412080035	26.0	22.238095238095237	10.839302384862053	21.0	17.285714285714285
5	Brighton-and-Hove-Albion	24.506849315068493	26.02123287671233	5.170691932287595	20.0	18.964285714285715	9.758119668814247	9.0	13.357142857142858
6	Chelsea	24.295890410958904	24.187881981032664	2.3770583204733398		19.153846153846153	10.880045248774687	11.5	14.384615384615385
7	Crystal-Palace	27.172602739726027	27.157860404435745	3.134913052545248	29.0	23.38095238095238	10.2101723319256	18.0	17.714285714285715
8	Everton	26.516438356164382	27.95703611457036	5.031962455952982	23.5	21.727272727272727	9.166096007424098	14.5	16.954545454545453
9	Fulham	28.81095890410959	28.80448318804483	3.351455998959689	26.0	23.772727272727273	9.211441220061568	17.0	16.954545454545453
10	Ipswich-Town	26.684931506849317	26.885205479452054	3.1551210970204226	18.0	17.6666666666668	8.742813140471172	11.0	12.4666666666667
11		26.732876712328768	27.200105374077978	4.46222726444891	21.0	19.73076923076923	9.568940139044418	14.5	14.384615384615385
12	Liverpool	26.43013698630137	27.195564253098503	3.6896849186844096	28.0	24.476190476190474	8.902915520317196	19.0	17.80952380952381
13	Manchester-City	26.671232876712327	26.97928767123288	4.913737779471895	22.0	19.24	8.762039336440653	16.0	14.92
14	Manchester-United	25.71232876712329	25.897818366311512	5.00358148299594	20.0	18.7777777777778	10.966148378369237	14.0	13.77777777777777
15	Newcastle-United	27.44931506849315	27.943895175699822	4.724786370857038		22.565217391304348	9.917047246381179	13.0	16.26086956521739
16	Nottingham-Forest	27.12054794520548	27.2574097135741	3.593866728645355	28.5	23.136363636363637	10.222735886460582	18.0	16.5
17	Southampton	26.958904109589042	26.95758148323099	4.225866786297973	20.0	18.137931034482758	10.056000830815378	13.0	12.862068965517242
18	Tottenham-Hotspur	25.624657534246577	25.64363267376966	4.538458558710816	21.0	18.88888888888889	9.279146733539896	15.0	13.814814814814815
19	West-Ham-United	28.32054794520548	28.60032876712329	5.015320141012429	20.0	20.92	8.281102986116442	14.0	14.96
20	Wolverhampton-Wanderers	26.838356164383562	27.659678379988087	3.9938137697339573	25.0	22.08695652173913	8.680767893757812	15.0	16.17391304347826

 Plot a histogram showing the distribution of each statistic for all players in the league and each team.

```
df = pd.read_csv("results.csv")
def convert_age(age):
         if '-' in age:
             y, d = map(int, age.split('-'))
return y + d / 365
         return int(age)
def dfclean(df):
     Clean DataFrame by handling NaN and ensuring numeric stats columns.
    df_cleaned = df.copy()
    df_cleaned = df_cleaned.replace("N/a", 0)
    return df_cleaned
df = dfclean(df)
df['Age'] = df['Age'].apply(convert_age)
df['Minutes']=df['Minutes'].str.replace(',','')
df['Minutes']=pd.to_numeric(df['Minutes'],errors='coerce')
if not os.path.exists('Statistics_for_all_players'):
  os.makedirs('Statistics_for_all_players')
if not os.path.exists('Statistics_for_each_team'):
    os.makedirs('Statistics_for_each_team')
atk_def=["SoT/90","G/sh","KP","Tkl","Blocks","Int"]
```

- After taking data from results.csv, I have to convert Age, Minnutes of players into matched forms to plot histogram, then I clean df have replace 'N/a' to 0 and use library os

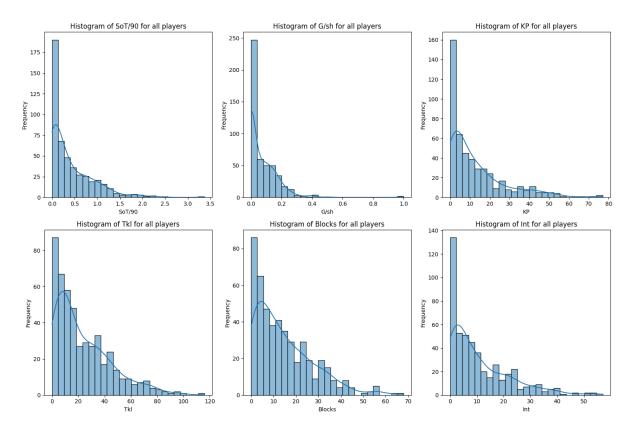
to create file to save histogram. I chose 6 stats to plot histogram: 'Sot/90', 'G/sh', 'KP', 'Tkl', 'Blocks', 'Int' and put them into array atk_def.

```
for stat in atk def:
   stat | name_stat.replace("/", "_").replace(":", "_").replace(" ", "_")
data = pd.to_numeric(df[stat], errors='coerce').dropna()
   unique_values = data.nunique()
bins = min(30, unique_values) if unique_values > 1 else 10
   sns.histplot(data,kde=True,bins=bins)
   plt.title(f"Histogram of {stat} for all players")
   plt.ylabel('Frequency')
   plt.xlabel(stat)
   plt.grid(True, alpha=0.3)
   print(f"Histogram of {stat_name} for all players is saved")
    plt.savefig(os.path.join('Statistics_for_all_players',f"{stat_name}.png"))
    plt.show()
   plt.close()
olt.figure(figsize=(15,10))
for i, stat in enumerate(atk def,1):
   plt.subplot(2,3,i)
   data=pd.to_numeric(df[stat],errors='coerce').dropna()
   sns.histplot(data,bins=25,kde=True)
   plt.title(f"Histogram of {stat} for all players")
   plt.xlabel(stat)
   plt.ylabel("Frequency")
olt.tight layout()
o<mark>lt.savefig(os.path.join</mark>('Statistics_for_all_players',f"A combined histogram for all stats.png"))
olt.show()
olt.close()
```

- In this part, I plot histograms for all players and a combined histogram for these above stats for all players. Firstly, I went through each stat and casted the data to numeric before plotting. To choose the numbers of bins, I took min between 30 and the number of unique stats. Then using sns to plot the probability density curve (Kernel Density Estimate KDE) on the histogram. After labeling X and Y axis, I saved it to Statistics for all players folder
- Same as part 2, I created a larger plt(figsize=(15,10)) to plot each histogram on it. The plt.subplot(2, 3, i) command in matplotlib divides the display area into a grid of cells (subplots), and selects the i-th cell to plot the chart.
- Same as part 3, I plot each combined histogram for each stat

```
df_team=df['Team'].unique()
for team in df_team:
    daf=df[df['Team']==team]
    plt.figure(figsize=(15,10))
    for i,stat in enumerate(atk_def,1):
        stat_name=stat.replace("/", "_").replace(":", "_").replace(" ", "_")
        data=pd.to_numeric(daf[stat],errors='coerce').dropna()
        plt.subplot(2,3,i)
        sns.histplot(data,bins=20,kde=True)
        plt.title(f"{team}")
        plt.xlabel(stat)
        plt.ylabel('Frequency')
    plt.tight_layout()
    plt.savefig(os.path.join('Statistics_for_each_team',f"Histogram for {team}.png"))
    plt.show()
```

- Example a combined histogram for all players:



 Identify the team with the highest scores for each statistic. Based on your analysis, which team do you think is performing the best in the 2024-2025 Premier League season?

To identify the teams with the highest scores for each stat, I based on the results of results2.csv(saving data of median, mean and std of each team).

```
df = pd.read_csv('results2.csv')
df = df.rename(columns={df.columns[1]: 'Team'})
df = df[df['Team'] != 'all']
print(df)
results = []
team_counts = {}
for stat in df.columns:
    stat parts = stat.split(' of ')
    stat_type = stat_parts[0] if len(stat_parts) > 1 else 'Value'
    stat_name = stat_parts[1] if len(stat_parts) > 1 else stat
    highest val = df[stat].max()
    highest_teams = df[df[stat] == highest_val]['Team'].tolist()
    results.append({
        'Statistic': stat_name.strip(),
        'Type': stat_type.strip(),
        'Top Teams': ', '.join(highest_teams),
        'Score': highest val
    for team in highest_teams:
        team_counts[team] = team_counts.get(team, 0) + 1
```

- After reading data from csv, I renamed the Team column and delete 'all' row. Then, I went through all columns (Median of Age, Mean of Age,...) to deal with data. I splitted stat column into 2 part (eg. Median and Age...) to categorize stat, I found the max value of each stat col and listed the teams having the highest score and put all stat into results then updated the team with the highest score.

```
max_count = max(team_counts.values())
best_teams = [team for team, count in team_counts.items() if count == max_count]

# Generate output
res = pd.DataFrame(results).sort_values(['Statistic', 'Type'])
res.to_csv('Best_teams_stats.csv', index=False)

print("STATISTICAL LEADERS:")
print(res.to_string(index=False))
print("\nTEAM DOMINANCE COUNT:")
print(pd.Series(team_counts).sort_values(ascending=False).to_string())
print(f"\nCONCLUSION: The best-performing team(s) is/are: {', '.join(best_teams)}")
print(f"Leading in {max_count} out of {len(df.columns)-1} statistics")
```

```
Brighton-and-Hove-Albion 7

Manchester-United 7

Ipswich-Town 7

Brighton-and-Hove-Albion 7

Manchester-United 7

Ipswich-Town 7

Manchester-United 7

Ipswich-Town 7

Ipswich-Town 7

CONCLUSION: The best-performing team(s) is/are: Liverpool

CONCLUSION: The best-performing team(s) is/are: Liverpool

Leading in 81 out of 223 statistics
```

As we can see, there are 223 stats (Ex Age have 3 stat: Median, Mean and std so 74 numeric stat have nearly 223 statistics

Liverpool lead all with 81 stats per 223

→ Liverpool is the best team overally

III) Problem 3:

a) Problem analysis:

Use the K-means algorithm to classify players into groups based on thei statistics.

How many groups should the players be classified into? Why? Provide your comments on the results.

Use PCA to reduce the data dimensions to 2, then plot a 2D cluster of the data points

In this problem, we need to use a machine learning algorithm named Kmeans to classify players.

- Input: A data table containing detailed data about players, including their form, performance and statistics,....
- Output: Groups of players with similar characteristics, with each group representing a type of player with a similar style or role.
- From this, we use PCA to to reduce the data dimensions to 2, then plot a 2D cluster of the data points.
 - b) Several tools to solve:
- pandas
- matplotlib.pyplot(to plot histogram)
- numpy
- sklearn(to use Kmeans and PCA)

- c) Code and Explanation:
- To classify players into groups with similar characteristics, it is necessary to determine the optimal number of groups (clusters) for K-means.
 - → Elbow method: To choose the number of clusters, we can use the Elbow method based on the SSE (Sum of Squared Errors) value. The goal is to choose an inflection point on the graph, where the decrease in SSE starts to level off as the number of clusters increases. This is a sign that adding clusters no longer improves the clustering much.
- + After selecting the number of clusters, we use PCA to reduce the data dimensionality to 2 dimensions for visualization. PCA (Principal Component Analysis) is a popular dimensionality reduction method, which helps retain most of the important information in the original data.
- + Plot a clustering chart: After reducing the dimensionality, we will use K-means to cluster the 2D data. Visualizing the clustering on the 2D plane helps us easily identify groups of players, thereby clearly seeing how the players are classified based on statistical indicators.

```
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from sklearn.cluster import KMeans
from sklearn.preprocessing import StandardScaler
from sklearn.decomposition import PCA
from sklearn.impute import SimpleImputer
from tabulate import tabulate
df = pd.read_csv('results.csv')
dm=df.copy()
def convert_age(age):
    try:
        if '-' in age:
            y, d = map(int, age.split('-'))
            return y + d / 365
       return int(age)
    except:
       return np.nan
df['Age'] = df['Age'].apply(convert_age)
df['Minutes']=df['Minutes'].str.replace(',','')
df['Minutes']=pd.to_numeric(df['Minutes'],errors='coerce')
df = df.iloc[:, 1:]
numeric cols = df.select dtypes(include=[np.number]).columns.tolist()
X=df[numeric cols]
```

- Initially, I import some libraries to use, pandas to create dataframe, matplotlib.pytlot to plot Elbow and chart, sklearn to use KMeans algorithm and PCA to reduce dimension to 2D. I created a copy of df to save the first result from results.csv, after converting Age and Minutes into matched form, I choose the df with numeric columns and fill the blanks with 0.

```
# Standardize the data
scaler = StandardScaler()
X_scaled = scaler.fit_transform(X)

imputer = SimpleImputer(strategy='mean')
X_imputed = imputer.fit_transform(X)

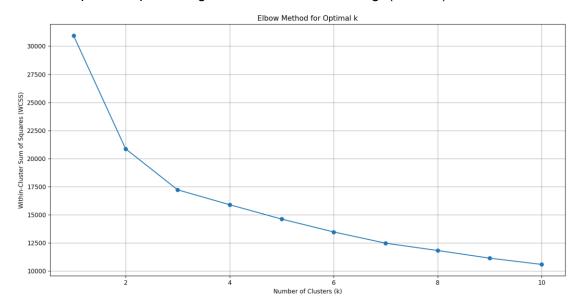
scaler = StandardScaler()
X_scaled = scaler.fit_transform(X_imputed)

# Step 1: Determine optimal number of clusters using Elbow Method
wcss = []
max_k = 10
for k in range(1, max_k + 1):
    kmeans = KMeans(n_clusters=k, random_state=42)
    kmeans.fit(X_scaled)
    wcss.append(kmeans.inertia_)
```

- Then we use StandardScaler to normalize the data so that each feature has: Mean = 0 and Standard deviation = 1.
- + SimpleImputer handles missing values (NaN) in X: with strategy='mean', it replaces each NaN value with the mean of that column. The fit_transform function both calculates the average and applies the replacement. Once NaN has been replaced, it is safe to standardize with StandardScaler.
 - Step 1, after standardizing, I started determine the number of clusters(K) to classify using Elbow Method.
- I created wcss[] (Within-Cluster Sum of Squares), I attached the first value for k=10 (checking the wcss size from k=1 to k=10).
- + For each cluster number k, calculate a different wcss value: If k increases, the cluster gets smaller \rightarrow points are closer to the centroid \rightarrow wcss decreases. For each k, initialize and train the KMeans model. Then get kmeans.inertia_ (which is the wcss for that k) and save it.

```
# Plot Elbow Curve
plt.figure(figsize=(8, 6))
plt.plot(range(1, max_k + 1), wcss, marker='o')
plt.title('Elbow Method for Optimal k')
plt.xlabel('Number of Clusters (k)')
plt.ylabel('Within-Cluster Sum of Squares (WCSS)')
plt.grid(True)
plt.savefig('elbow_plot.png')
plt.show()
plt.close()
```

- I used matplotlib to plot histogram of Elbow with the range(1 to 10). So we have:



As we can see, at the point with k=4 to k=5, wcss decreased more slowly than k=1 to k=4.

So k = 4 is a reasonable choice because here:The curve starts to "fold". After k = 4, WCSS still decreases but the rate of decrease is not significant.

→ Optimal k=4

Based on k=4, I can choose classify players into 4 roles FW, MF, DF, GK and players playing both role(Ex MF,DF).

```
optimal_k = 4  # Adjust based on elbow plot or domain knowledge
kmeans = KMeans(n_clusters=optimal_k, random_state=42)
cluster_labels = kmeans.fit_predict(X_scaled)

df['Cluster'] = cluster_labels
# Step 3: PCA for 2D visualization
pca = PCA(n_components=2)
X pca = pca.fit transform(X scaled)
```

Create a KMeans object with: n_clusters=4: the number of clusters to find. Random_state=42: to ensure consistent results when running multiple times (replication). Apply the KMeans model to the normalized data (X_scaled). In addition to, I used .fit predict(...) both trains the model and returns the cluster label for each data row.

Example: [2, 0, 1, 1, 0, 3, ...] (each number is the cluster that the point belongs to).

```
df['Cluster'] = cluster_labels
# Step 3: PCA for 2D visualization
pca = PCA(n_components=2)
X_pca = pca.fit_transform(X_scaled)

explained_variance = pca.explained_variance_ratio_
print(f"Explained Variance Ratio by PCA: {explaine explained_variance_ratio_
print(f"Total Variance Explained: {sum(explained_variance):.2%}")
```

- I used PCA to find two main axes (PC1 and PC2) so that when the data is projected onto them, it retains the most of the original variance. This is a way to compress information but still keep the nature of the data.
- Create a PCA object to reduce the data to 2 principal components (PC1 and PC2). n components=2 → keep only the 2 most important dimensions.
- Next, I use PCA to train on the X_scaled (normalized) data and transform the data into a new 2-dimensional space. The output X_pca is a numpy array of size (n_samples, 2) each row is the coordinate of a data point (e.g. a player) in the PC1-PC2 space.

```
Ex: X_pca = [
    [ 5.2, -1.3], # Player 1
    [ 2.1, 0.8], # Player 2
    [-3.0, 2.5],
... ]
```

explained_variance = pca.explained_variance_ratio_

Returns the proportion of variance explained by each principal component.

Example: explained variance = [0.44147169, 0.20505401]

PC1 (first principal axis) explains 44.15% of the original data variance.

PC2 explains another 20.51%.

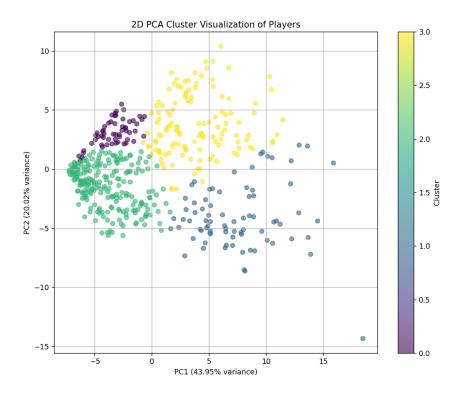
So, total: 42% + 25% = 67% of information retained.

```
# Plot 2D clusters
plt.figure(figsize=(10, 8))
scatter = plt.scatter(X pca[:, 0], X pca[:, 1], c=cluster_labels, cmap='viridis', alpha=0.6)
plt.colorbar(scatter, label='cluster')
plt.xilabel('PC1 ((explained_variance[0]:.2%) variance)')
plt.xilabel('PC2 ((explained_variance[0]:.2%) variance)')
plt.grid(frue)
plt.savefig('pca_cluster_plot.png')
plt.slow()
plt.close()

with open('clustering_results.txt', 'w', encoding='utf-8-sig') as f:
    for cluster in range(optimal_k):
        print(f'\n======= CLUSTER (cluster) =======\n\n\n')
        cluster_df = dm[df['cluster'] == cluster][dm.columns[1:]] .reset_index(drop=True)
        table_str = tabulate(cluster_df, headers='keys', tablefmt='grid', showindex=True)
        print(cluster_df)
        f.write(f'\n\n')

print(f''- Number of clusters chosen: (optimal_k)'')
print(f''- Reasoning: The Elbow Method plot (elbow_plot.png) was analyzed, and k=4 was chosen based on the elbow point and domain knowledge (grouping print("- Reasoning: The Elbow Method plot (elbow_plot.png) shows distinct clusters, though some overlap may exist due to dimensionality reductio print(f''- Variance Explained: PCA captures {sum(explained_variance): 2%} of the variance, indicating how much information is retained in 20.")
print(f''- Cluster Interpretation: Based on sample players, clusters likely correspond to player roles (e.g., high-scoring forwards, defensive players)
```

Then, I created a histogram with figsize=(10,8). Use scatter of matplotlib to plot scatter histogram with 2D dimension. The x-axis is the first principal component (X_pca[:, 0]) and the y-axis is the second principal component (X_pca[:, 1]) and save the result to file csv.



Ex: Cluster 0 contains most players playing at Position like: GK, and some DF,MF



Cluster 1 contains players playing at Position like: FW,MF

	CLUSTER 1	===								
!	Name	Nation	Team	Position	Age	Matches	Starts	Minutes	Goals	Assists
0	Adama Traoré	+=====================================	 Fulham	 FW,MF	+======= 29-094	32	16	1,568	2	6
1	Alejandro Garnacho	ARG	Manchester-United	MF,FW	20-302	33	22	2,056	5	1
2	Alex Iwobi	NGA	Fulham	FW,MF	28-361	34	32	2,721	9	6
] 3	Alexander Isak	SWE	Newcastle-United	FW	25-220	31		2,487	22	6
4	Amad Diallo	CIV	Manchester-United	FW,MF	22-292	22	17	1,594	6	6
5	Andreas Pereira	BRA	Fulham	MF	29-118	31		1,879	2	4
6	Anthony Elanga	SWE	Nottingham-Forest	FW 	23-002	33	26	2,052	6	9

Cluster 2 contains most players playing at Position like: DF and some FW, MF

:=====	CLUSTER 2	=								
	Name	Nation	Team	Position	Age	Matches	Starts	Minutes	Goals	Ass
0	Aaron Cresswell	ENG	West-Ham-United	DF	35-135	14		589	0	
1	Abdukodir Khusanov	UZB	Manchester-City	DF	21-059	6	6	503	0	
2	Abdul Fatawu Issahaku	GHA	Leicester-City	FW	21-052	11	 6	579	0	
3	Adam Armstrong	ENG	Southampton	FW,MF	28-078	20	15	1,248	2	
4	Adam Lallana	ENG	Southampton	MF	36-354	14	 5	361	0	
5	Adam Smith	ENG	Bournemouth	DF	34-000	22	17	1,409	0	
6	Adam Webster	ENG	Brighton-and-Hove-Albion	DF	30-115	11	8 	617	0	

Cluster 3 contains most players playing at Position like: MF and some DF

====	CLUSTER 3		•							
i	Name	Nation	Team	Position	Age	Matches	Starts	Minutes	Goals	Assist
0	Aaron Wan-Bissaka	ENG	West-Ham-United	DF	27-154	32	31	2,794	2	
1	Abdoulaye Doucouré	MLI	Everton	MF	32-118	30	29	2,425	3	1
2	Adam Wharton	ENG	Crystal-Palace	MF	20-331	19	15	1,258	0	;
3	Alexis Mac Allister	ARG	Liverpool	MF	26-126	33	30	2,553	5	,
4	Amadou Onana	BEL	Aston-Villa	MF	23-256	22	17	1,348	3	(
5	Andrew Robertson	SC0	Liverpool	DF	31-049	31	27	2,308	0	,
6	André	BRA	Wolverhampton-Wanderers	MF	23-287	29	27	2,170	0	(
7	Ashley Young	ENG	Everton	DF,FW	39-294	28	17	1,613	1	

IV) Problem 4:

a) Problem analysis:

Collect player transfer values for the 2024-2025 season from https://www.footballtransfers.com.

Note that only collect for the players whose playing

time is greater than 900 minutes

In this problem, we can collect player transfer value by finding Premier league link and from this, I will find the most valued table having the list of players who played more than 900 minutes.

In term of missing players (who are not in most valued table), I will find them directly on the search box of web and get transfer value.

b) Several tools to solve:

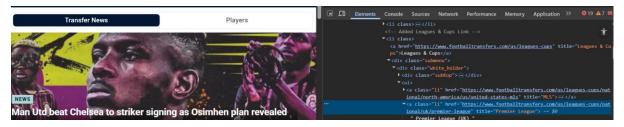
- Selenium to crawl data
- Pandas to save transfer value to csv file
- Time to sleep while parsing link
- c) Code and explanation:

```
from selenium import webdriver
from selenium.webdriver.common.by import By
from selenium.webdriver.common.keys import Keys
from selenium.webdriver.support.ui import WebDriverWait
from webdriver manager.chrome import ChromeDriverManager
from selenium.webdriver.chrome.service import Service
from bs4 import BeautifulSoup as bs
import pandas as pd
import time
BASE URL = 'https://www.footballtransfers.com/us'
def load_players():
        df = pd.read csv('results.csv')
        df['Minutes'] = df['Minutes'].str.replace(',', '')
df['Minutes'] = pd.to_numeric(df['Minutes'], errors='coerce')
        df = df[df['Minutes'] > 900].reset_index(drop=True)
        df = df.drop(columns=['Unnamed: 0'], errors='ignore')
        return list(df['Name'])
        print(f"Error loading players: {e}")
        return []
def setup_driver():
    chrome_options = webdriver.ChromeOptions()
    service = Service(ChromeDriverManager().install())
    driver = webdriver.Chrome(service=service, options=chrome_options)
    driver.set_page_load_timeout(60)
    return driver
```

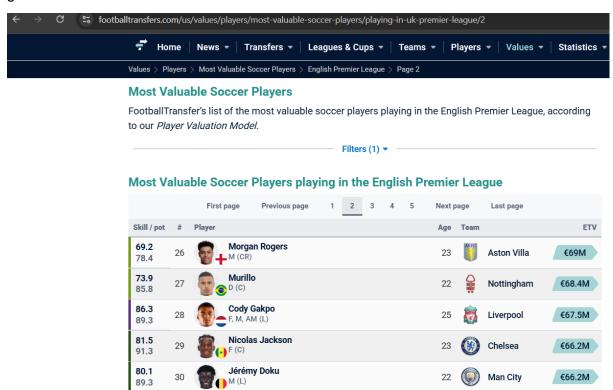
- Firstly, we import selenium and webdriver_manager to crawl data. From the previous csv file at the problem 1 – results.csv, I convert Minutes to standard form and get list of names of players who played more than 900 minutes, then set up driver.

```
get_premier_league_link(driver):
     'Get the Premier League players page URL."
       driver.get(BASE_URL)
       time.sleep(5)
       soup = bs(driver.page_source, 'html.parser')
       pl_tag = soup.find('a', {'title': 'Premier League'})
       if not pl_tag:
           raise Exception("Premier League link not found.")
       return f"{pl_tag.get('href')}/2024-2025"
       print(f"Error getting Premier League link:{e}")
def get_valued_players_link(driver, pl_link):
       driver.get(pl_link)
       time.sleep(3)
       soup = bs(driver.page_source, 'html.parser')
       valued_tag = soup.find('a', {'title': 'View all valued players'})
       if not valued_tag:
           raise Exception("All valued players link not found.")
       return valued_tag.get('href')
    except Exception as e:
       print(f"Error getting valued players link: {e}")
```

- Then, from the initial base link, I got premier league link by using soup in BeautifulSoup to parse page source. After that, I determined a tag with the title 'Premier League' to get 'href'.



- The next step is to access the most valued table having player transfer value after parsing premier link by getting href of tag a with title 'View all valued players'.
- Because there are 22 pages containing most valuable players, I will process all pages to get value.



```
def scrape_player_values(driver, all_players, all_valued_players_link):

"Scrape player values from the paginated list."

matched_players = []

for page in range(1, 23):

try:

url = f"{all_valued_players_link}/{page}"

driver.get(url)

WebDriverNait(driver, 20).until(

EC.presence_of_element_located((By.CSS_SELECTOR, "table.table-hover.no-cursor.table-striped.leaguetable.mvp-table.mb-0"))

soup = bs(driver.page_source, 'html.parser')

rows = soup.select('table.table-hover.no-cursor.table-striped.leaguetable.mvp-table.mb-0 tbody#player-table-body tr')

print(f"Found {len(rows)} rows on page {page}")

time.sleep(2)

for row in rows[:1]:

print(row)

try:

td_player = row.find('td', {'class': 'td-player'})

if not td_player:

continue

name_tag = td_player.find('a') or td_player.find('span')

if not name_tag:

continue
```

- The function scrape_player_values id used to get values of players on each page. All_players is the list of players playing more than 900 mins(will be used to filter player in valued table). All_valued_player_link is the initial link: https://www.footballtransfers.com/us/values/players/most-valuable-soccer-players/playing-in-uk-premier-league
- Matched_players is an array to store player name and player value (like {'Name': Alisson, 'Value': '13M'}
- After determining table:



- To find rows of players, I used soup.select('table.table-hover.no-cursor.table-striped.leaguetable.mvp-table.mb-0 tbody#player-table-body tr') to find player name on Tag tbody with all tr.

```
for row in rows[:1]:
                print(row)
                   td_player = row.find('td', {'class': 'td-player'})
                   if not td_player:
                   name_tag = td_player.find('a') or td_player.find('span')
                   if not name_tag:
                   player_name = name_tag.text.strip()
                    if player_name in all_players:
                       value tag = row.find('span', {'class': 'player-tag'})
                        transfer_value = value_tag.text.strip() if value_tag else "N/A"
                        print(f"Found {player_name}: {transfer_value}")
                       matched_players.append({"Name": player_name, "Value": transfer_value})
                        print(f" {player name} not found in list")
                   print(f"Error processing row: {e}")
           print(f"Error on page {page}: {e}")
return matched_players
```

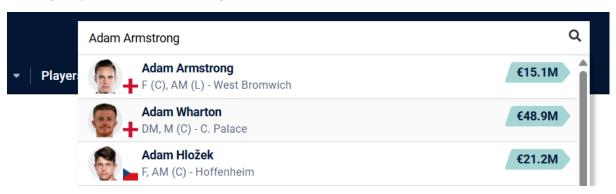
- I processed each row to find player name at td with class='td-player' with Tag 'a' to get text, if this name in all_players(players with more 900 mins), I will take transfer value and return 'N/a' if it didn't exist, and finally return matched_players.

```
search_missing_players(driver, player_name)
 ""Search for a player not found in the main list."""
    search_box = WebDriverWait(driver, 20).until(
        EC.element_to_be_clickable((By.CSS_SELECTOR, "input[type='text'][placeholder*='Search']"))
    search box.clear()
    for char in player_name:
       search_box.send_keys(char)
       time.sleep(0.2)
    time.sleep(4)
    results = WebDriverWait(driver, 20).until(
       EC.presence_of_all_elements_located((By.CSS_SELECTOR, "div.searchResults a.newItem.player"))
       value = results[0].find_element(By.CSS_SELECTOR, "div.pl_value").text
        print(f"Found {player_name} with {value}")
        return value
       print(f"Not found {player_name} in the result")
    print(f"Error when searching {player_name}: {e}")
```

- After finding all players in tables, there were still some missing players not in table. At this step, I would find player value by using search box.



- After find this box, I will enter name of missing players to get suggestion table in which missing player is on the top and get transfer value





```
pl link = get premier league link(driver)
all_valued_players_link = get_valued_players_link(driver, pl_link)
print(f"Valued players link: {all_valued_players_link}")
matched_players = scrape_player_values(driver, all_players, all_valued_players_link)
# Go back to link 'https://www.footballtransfers.com/us' to find values of missing players
driver.get(BASE URL)
time.sleep(3)
matched_names = [p['Name'] for p in matched_players]
missing_players = [p for p in all_players if p not in matched_names]
print(f"Missing player: {missing_players}")
for player in missing_players:
    value = search_missing_players(driver, player)
    matched_players.append({"Name": player, "Value": value})
df = pd.DataFrame(matched_players)
df['NumericValue'] = df['Value'].apply(normalize_value)
df = df.sort_values('NumericValue', ascending=False).drop('NumericValue', axis=1)
df.to_csv('Transfer_value.csv', index=True)
print(f"\nSaved results to {'Transfer_value.csv'}")
for _, row in df.iterrows():
    print(f"{row['Name']}: {row['Value']}")
```

- Player name and value will be sorted by transfer value and saved to 'Transfer_value.csv' as the result.

	Name	Value
0	Erling Haaland	€199.6M
1	Martin Ødegaard	€125.8M
2	Alexander Isak	€119.4M
3	Cole Palmer	€117.4M
4	Alexis Mac Allister	€117M
5	Declan Rice	€116.4M
6	Bukayo Saka	€113M