

Exploratory Data Analysis on Red Wine Quality

Getting to Know the Database

Viewing the first 6 rows in the dataset to see how the data looks like.

```
##   X fixed.acidity volatile.acidity citric.acid residual.sugar chlorides
## 1 1      7.4          0.70     0.00      1.9      0.076
## 2 2      7.8          0.88     0.00      2.6      0.098
## 3 3      7.8          0.76     0.04      2.3      0.092
## 4 4     11.2          0.28     0.56      1.9      0.075
## 5 5      7.4          0.70     0.00      1.9      0.076
## 6 6      7.4          0.66     0.00      1.8      0.075
##   free.sulfur.dioxide total.sulfur.dioxide density    pH sulphates alcohol
## 1                  11            34 0.9978 3.51      0.56      9.4
## 2                  25            67 0.9968 3.20      0.68      9.8
## 3                  15            54 0.9970 3.26      0.65      9.8
## 4                  17            60 0.9980 3.16      0.58      9.8
## 5                  11            34 0.9978 3.51      0.56      9.4
## 6                  13            40 0.9978 3.51      0.56      9.4
##   quality
## 1      5
## 2      5
## 3      5
## 4      6
## 5      5
## 6      5
```

There are 11 chemicals in the table that can influence the quality of red wine. For instance acidity level, sugar, PH level, alcohol, etc. The last column in the table specifies the quality (score between 0 to 10) of the wine based on all the chemicals.

Now let's get some info on different types of data in the dataset. According to the table below, `row number` and `quality` are of type integer, while the rest of the variables are numeric.

```
## 'data.frame': 1599 obs. of 13 variables:
## $ X           : int 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...
## $ fixed.acidity : num 7.4 7.8 7.8 11.2 7.4 7.4 7.9 7.3 7.8 7.5 ...
## $ volatile.acidity : num 0.7 0.88 0.76 0.28 0.7 0.66 0.6 0.65 0.58 0.5 ...
## $ citric.acid : num 0 0 0.04 0.56 0 0 0.06 0 0.02 0.36 ...
## $ residual.sugar : num 1.9 2.6 2.3 1.9 1.9 1.8 1.6 1.2 2 6.1 ...
## $ chlorides : num 0.076 0.098 0.092 0.075 0.076 0.075 0.069 0.065 0.073 0.071 ...
## $ free.sulfur.dioxide : num 11 25 15 17 11 13 15 15 9 17 ...
## $ total.sulfur.dioxide: num 34 67 54 60 34 40 59 21 18 102 ...
## $ density       : num 0.998 0.997 0.997 0.998 0.998 ...
## $ pH           : num 3.51 3.2 3.26 3.16 3.51 3.51 3.3 3.39 3.36 3.35 ...
## $ sulphates    : num 0.56 0.68 0.65 0.58 0.56 0.56 0.46 0.47 0.57 0.8 ...
## $ alcohol       : num 9.4 9.8 9.8 9.8 9.4 9.4 9.4 10 9.5 10.5 ...
## $ quality       : int 5 5 5 6 5 5 5 7 7 5 ...
```

I would like to remove the `X` vector from the dataset as it only holds row numbers in the table which is no use for me during my investigation.

Univariate Plots Section

I create some basic histograms for each chemical property in the table.

First I like to see how the `quality` property is distributed in the table. Quality of red wine is one of the main point of interest for me in this dataset, as I'd like to see what properties in red wine can influence the quality.

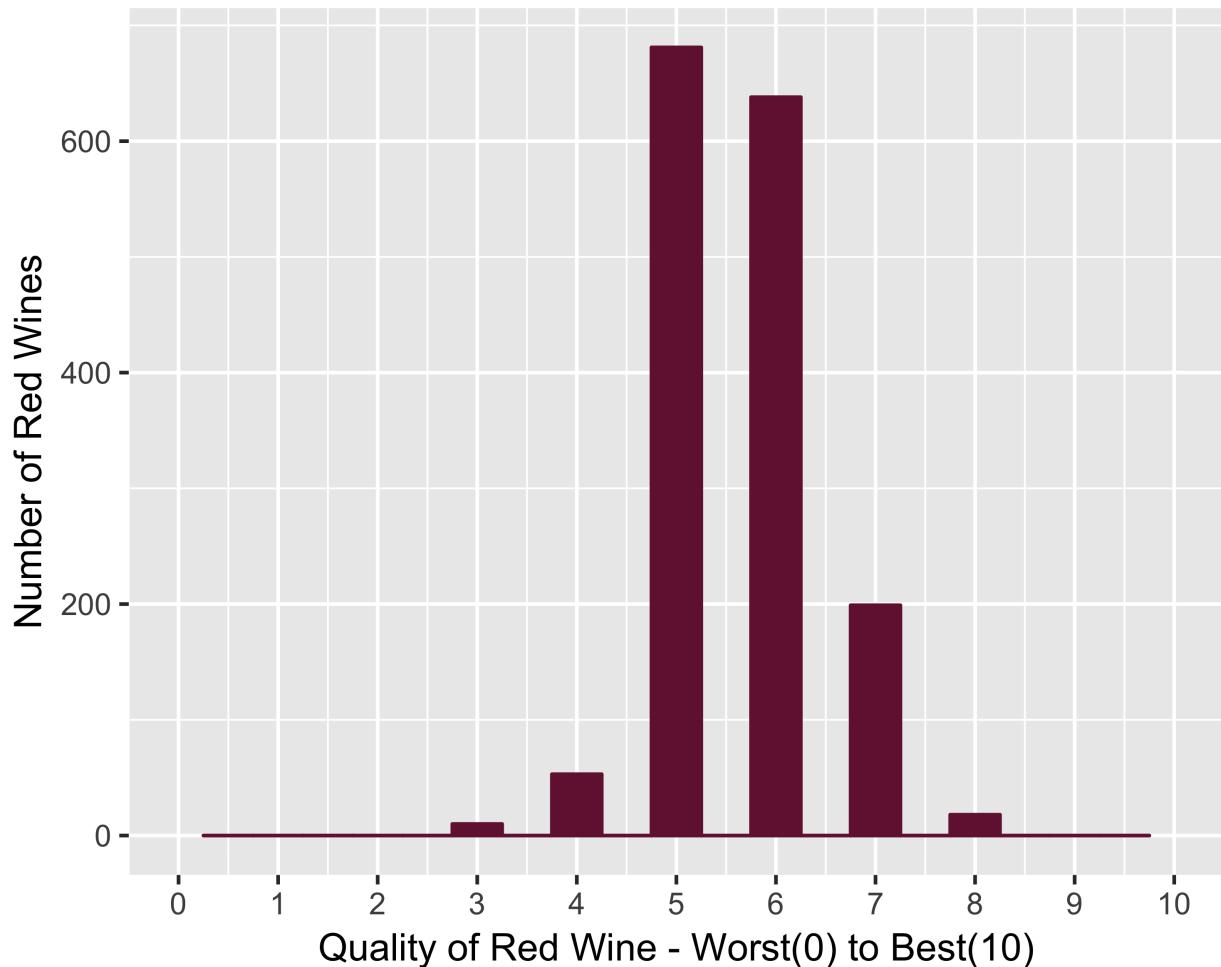


Figure 1: Distribution of Red Wines Based on Quality

Based on the plot the majority of the red wines -about more than 1200- have either 5 or 6 ranking for their quality. About 200 red wines have quality ranking as 7, but the number is not as significant as 5 and 6. The rest are either 3,4 or 8.

```
##      Min. 1st Qu. Median     Mean 3rd Qu.    Max.
##  3.000   5.000   6.000   5.636   6.000   8.000
```

The average quality of red wines in the database is 5.63, with the maximum ranking set to 8 and the minimum set to 3. Therefor, there is no red wine in the database with a quality of 10 or 0.

Adding a New Column ‘Rating’ to My DataFrame

Since the quality rating is from 0-10, I like to create a rating system, from 1-10 (as there are no wines with rating zero in the data), and categories these numbers into ratings like this:

1-2 : Poor 3-4 : Below Average 5-6 : Average 7-8 : Above Average 9-10 : Excellent

The first 20 rows of my dataset for the `rating` column now looks like this:

```
## [1] "Average"      "Average"      "Average"      "Average"  
## [5] "Average"      "Average"      "Average"      "Above Average"  
## [9] "Above Average" "Average"      "Average"      "Average"  
## [13] "Average"      "Average"      "Average"      "Average"  
## [17] "Above Average" "Average"      "Below Average" "Average"
```

After looking at the quality distribution, I’d like to get a histogram of all the chemical properties - as well as quality - in the table. These histograms can also help me in finding out if any of values in the plots need to be changed to e.g. \log_{10} for a smoother distribution.

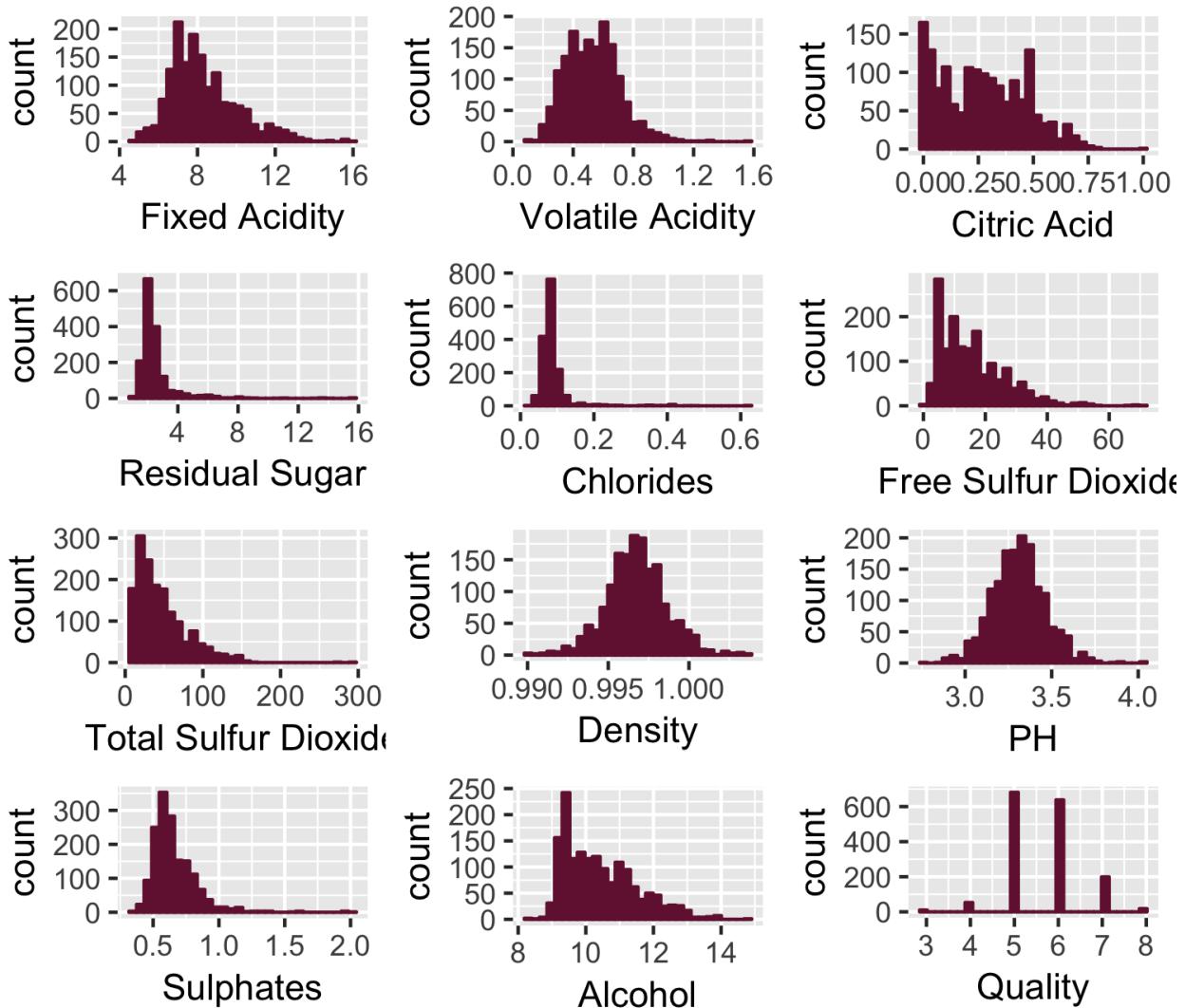


Figure 2: Distribution of Quality and All Chemical Properties

Fixed Acidity, Volatile Acidity and Citric Acid

Fixed Acidity distribution has most of its values from 5-12, with a few more than 12, and some outliers around 16. I apply the `log10` function to its x-axis to make the distribution look normal.

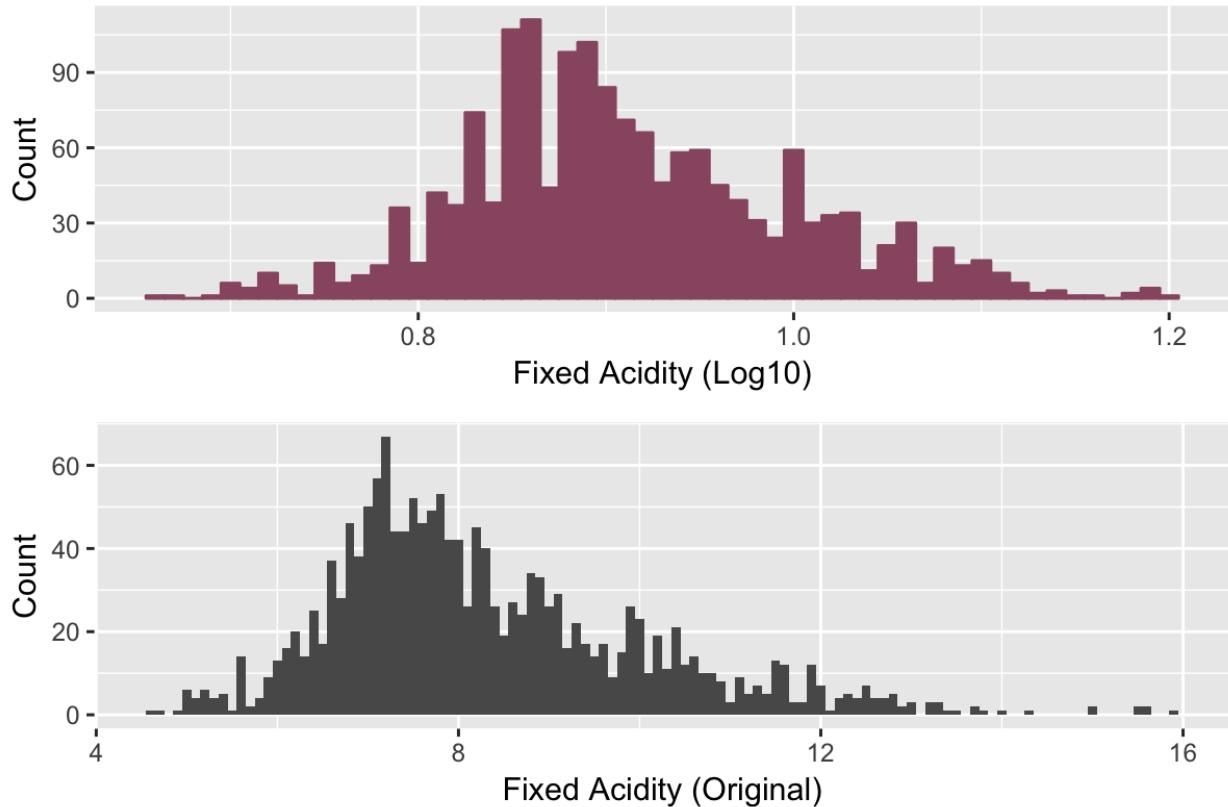


Figure 3: Fixed Acidity Level - Comparing Log10 to the Original Distribution

Volatile Acidity distribution has most of its values between 0 and 0.8, with a few going to 1, and then outliers after 1 to 1.6.

By getting the square root of the values, I can change the distribution towards a normal one. However, the outliers still exist after 1.00

Citric Acid values are distributed along the plot on its x-axis, starting from zero (with its most count) to 0.75. Seems there are outliers for citric acid level 1.00

The plot has a rise and fall throughout the x-axis. The most count contains citric acid level of zero. There are also two more visible peaks in count around 0.25 and 0.5 values.

Residual Sugar

Residual Sugar distribution has the majority of the count around 1.5-2.5. There are many outliers around 7 and onwards.

The plot looks like a normal distribution that is skewed to the left.

The outliers can have a direct influence on change the average value for residual sugar. Let's take a look at the summary for residual sugar to find out how the average is influenced.

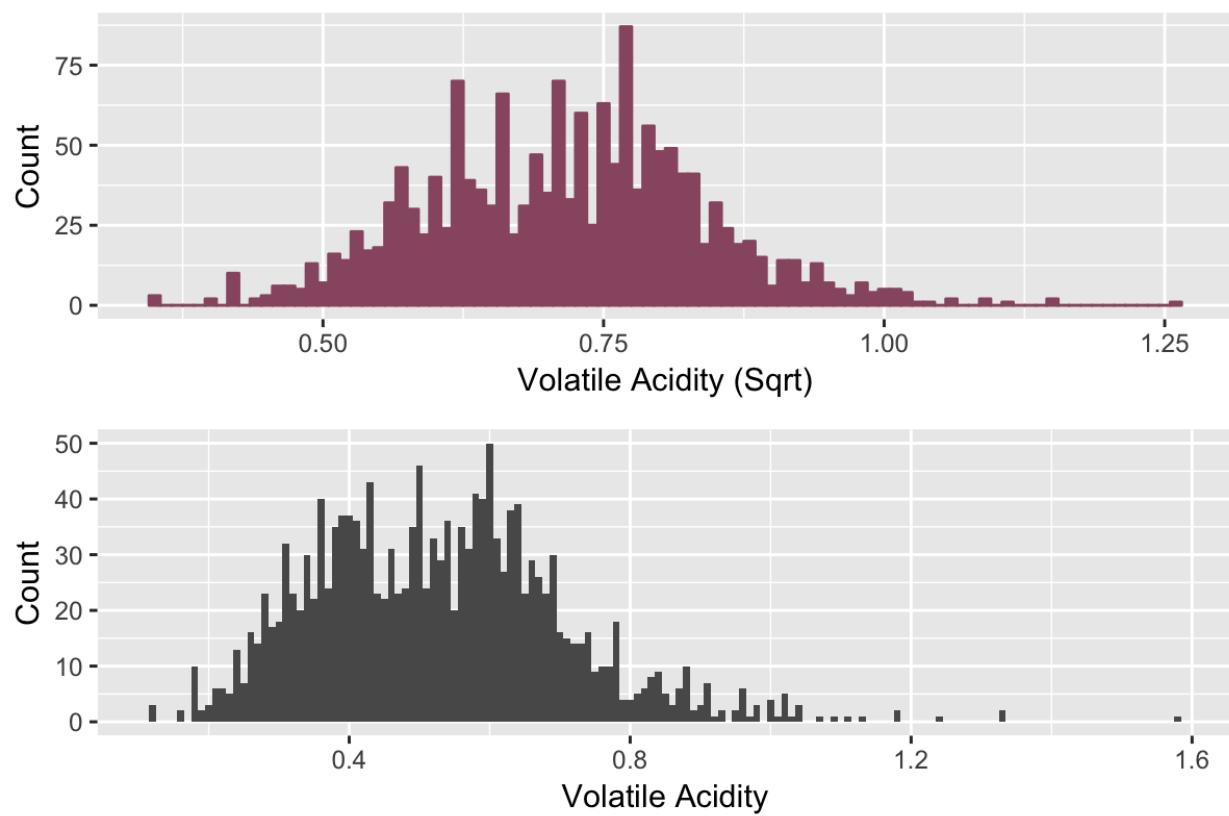


Figure 4: Volatile Acidity Level - Comparing Square Root to the Original Distribution

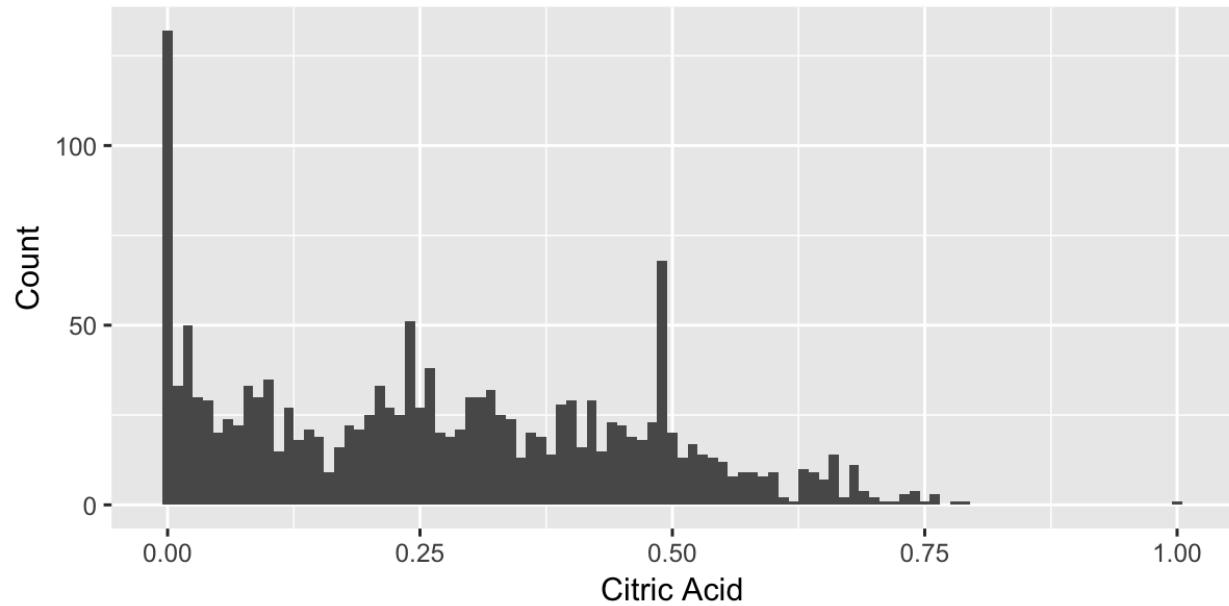


Figure 5: Distribution of Citric Acid Level

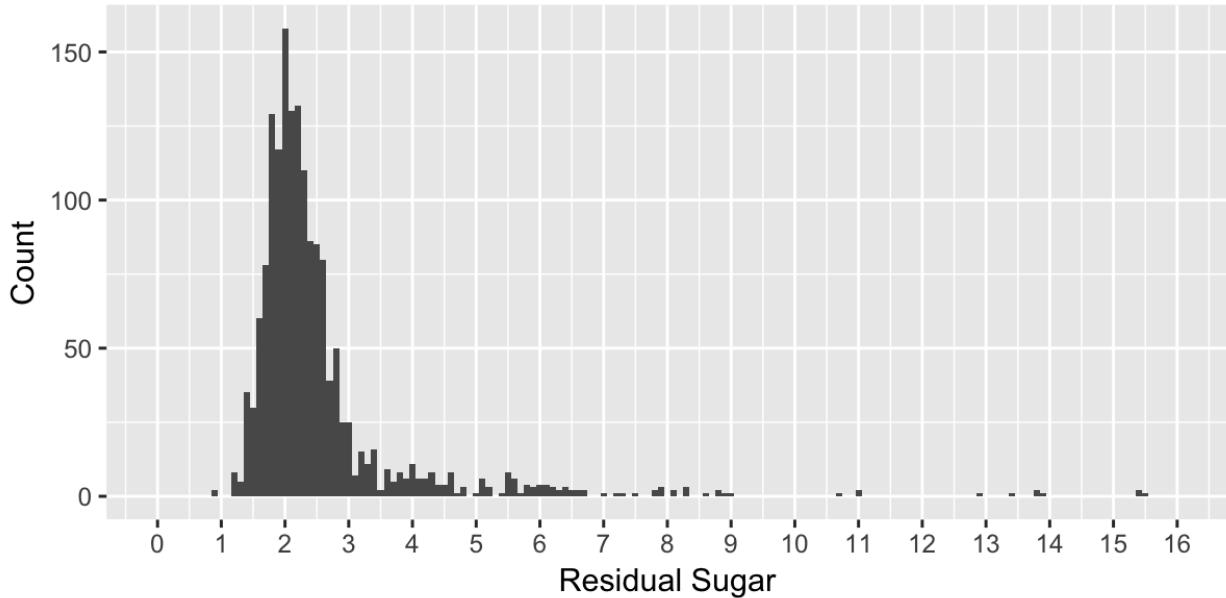


Figure 6: Distribution of Residual Sugar

```
##      Min. 1st Qu. Median     Mean 3rd Qu.    Max.
##  0.900   1.900   2.200   2.539   2.600  15.500
```

According to the plot for residual sugar, with most of the values concentrated around 1.5-2.5, I was expecting the mean to fall around this range as well. However, the existence of the outliers was an interesting factor for me to check to see how much they can influence the mean. According to the summary, the mean still falls around 2.5 inspite of the outliers. This can make sense as the density of the plot is more significant in 1.5-2.5 range, than around the outliers.

Chlorides

Chlorides distribution has most of the values concentrated around 0.03-0.15. There are a few outliers especially after 0.35. I would like to check the summary to see how the mean value is influenced by the outliers.

The plot shows that the distribution is almost normal and a bit skewed to the left.

```
##      Min. 1st Qu. Median     Mean 3rd Qu.    Max.
## 0.01200 0.07000 0.07900 0.08747 0.09000 0.61100
```

I expected that the mean value would fall somewhere between 0.05-0.10, and according to the summary, it's correct. The mean value of 0.08 is in my expected range.

Free Sulfur Dioxide and Total Sulfur Dioxide

Total Sulfur Dioxide distribution is skewed to left. The rise and fall of the distribution is not that much; however, there are a few noticeable peaks in count around 30-40, 60-80, and 80-90.

I can use `log10` on the x-axis to change the distribution to normal. Let's see how this will look like.

Based on the plots for Total Sulfur Dioxide, using `log10` on the x-axis helped the distribution to look normal-ish. There are still a few peaks in counts, but the overall shape of the distribution looks normal.

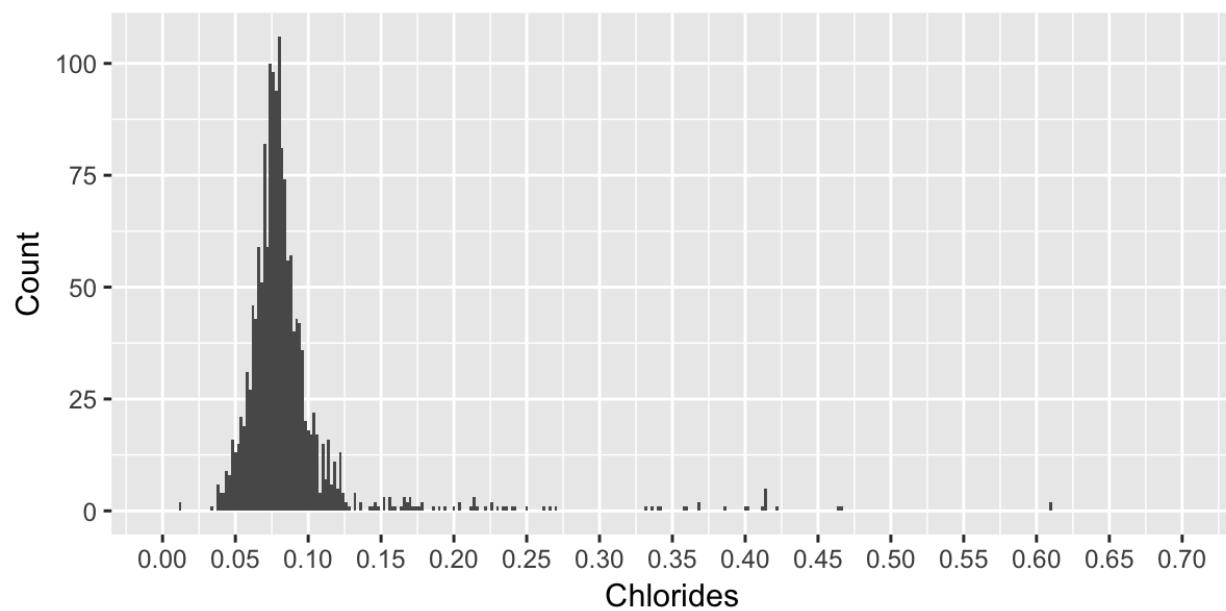


Figure 7: Distribution of Chlorides

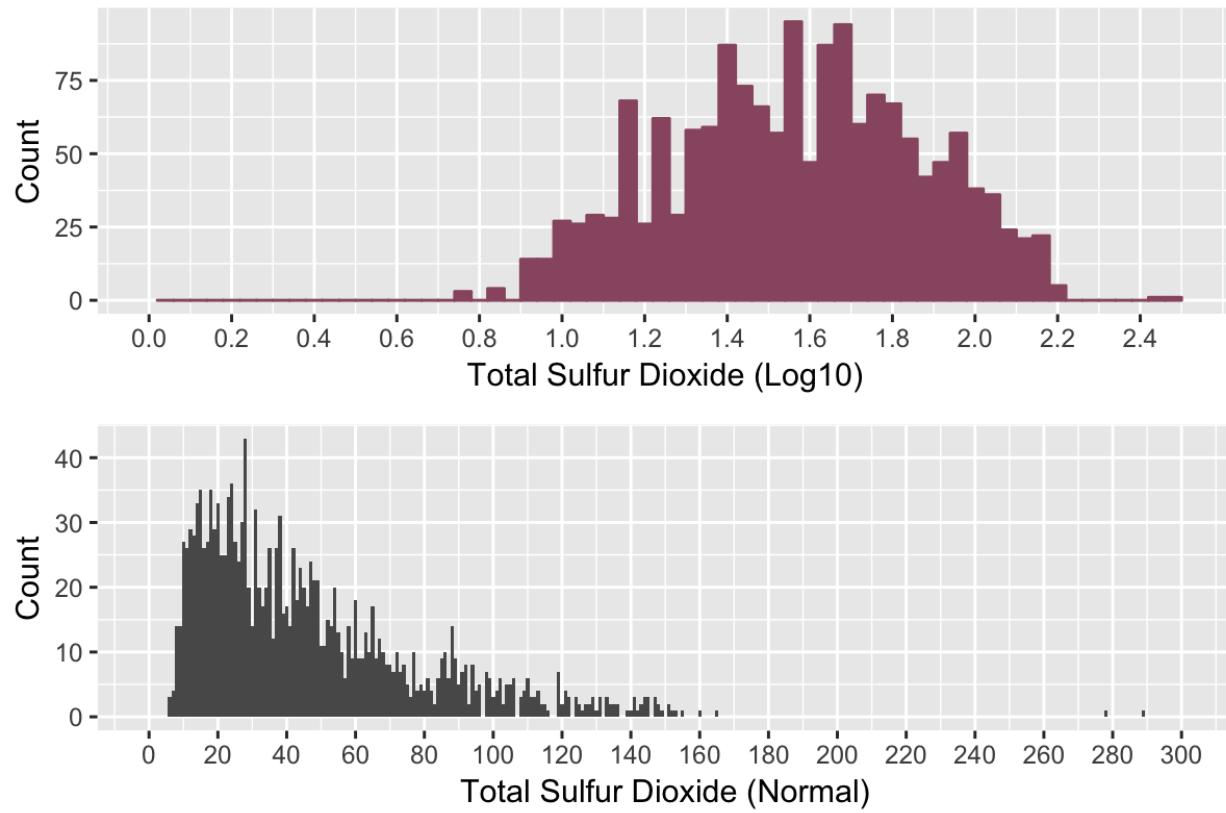


Figure 8: Distribution of Total Sulfur Dioxide - Comparing Original to Log10

Free Sulfur Dioxide distribution is also skewed to the left, with most of the values concentrated around 5-15.

Applying \log_{10} on the x-axis does not work for **Free Sulfur Dioxide**, though. It changes the distribution, but seems the distribution goes more skewed to the right, rather than getting normally distributed.

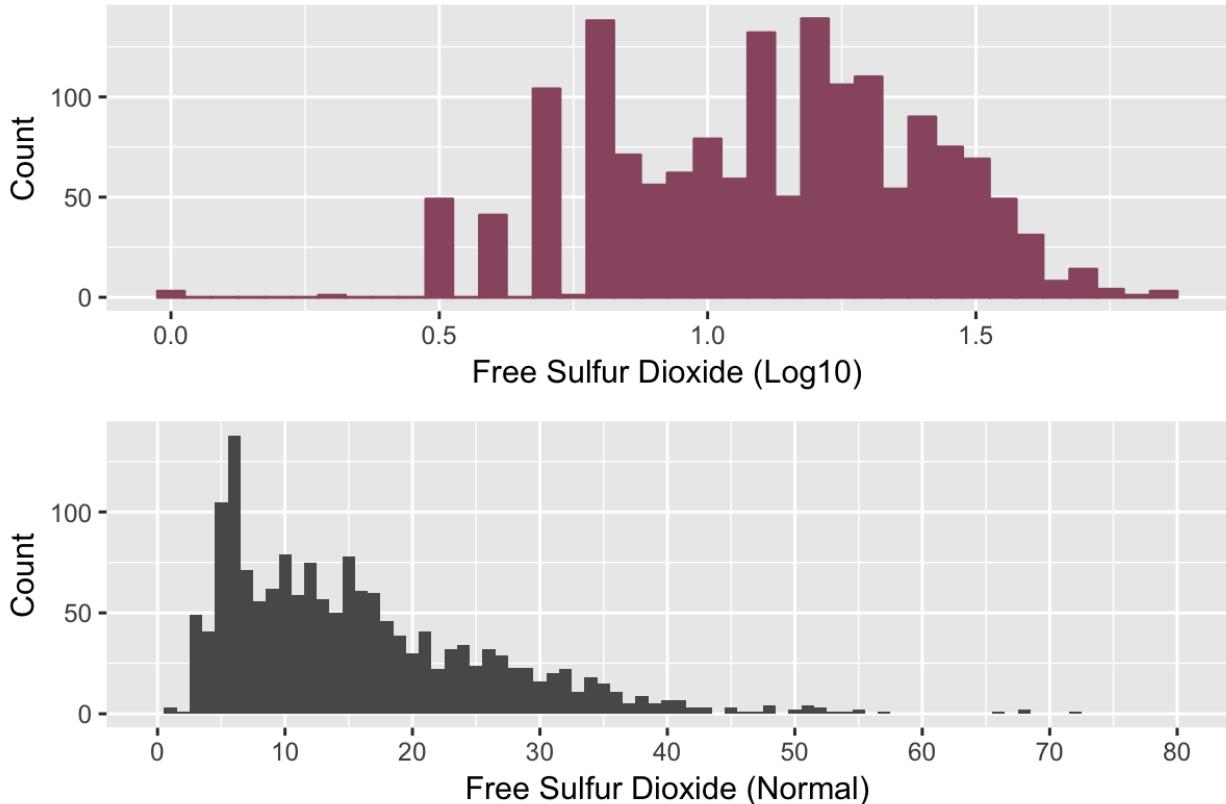


Figure 9: Distribution of Free Sulfur Dioxide - Comparing Original to Log10

Density

The **Density** distribution looks like a normal distribution.

Getting the summary of the distribution, I have:

```
##      Min. 1st Qu. Median   Mean 3rd Qu.   Max.
## 0.9901 0.9956 0.9968 0.9967 0.9978 1.0040
```

The mean of the distribution is 0.9967 which looks like it's almost in the middle of the distribution. The median is different than mean by 0.0011, which is also almost close to the middle of the distribution.

PH

The **PH** distribution looks normal, with a few outliers.

```
##      Min. 1st Qu. Median   Mean 3rd Qu.   Max.
## 2.740 3.210 3.310 3.311 3.400 4.010
```

The summary of the distribution shows the mean value falls at 3.31, very close to the median value.

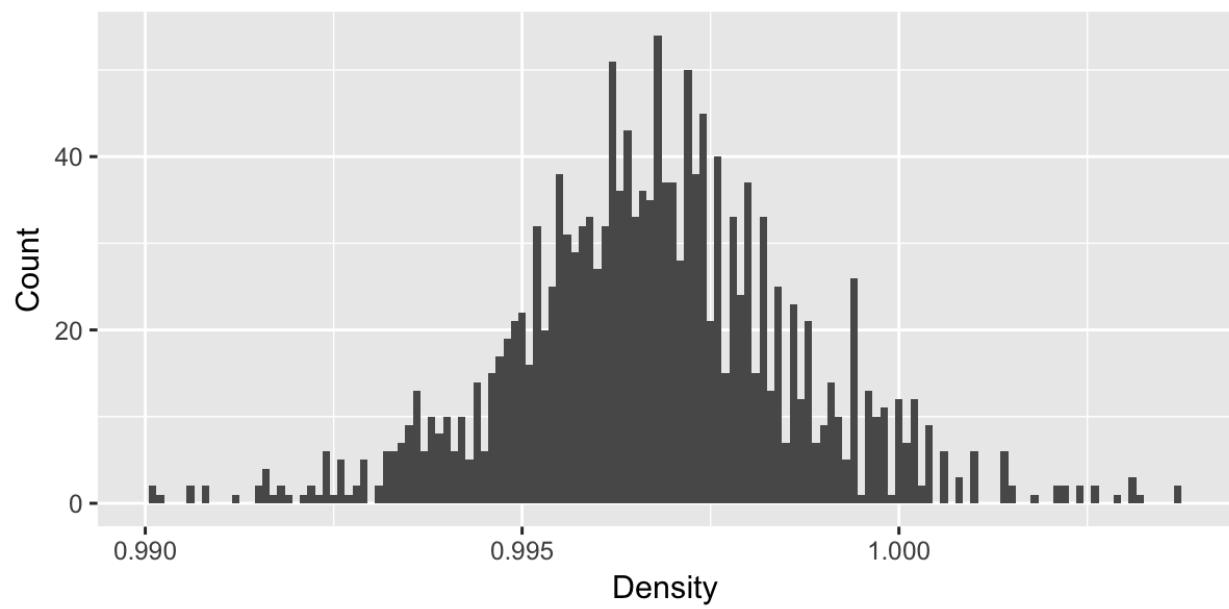


Figure 10: Density Distribution

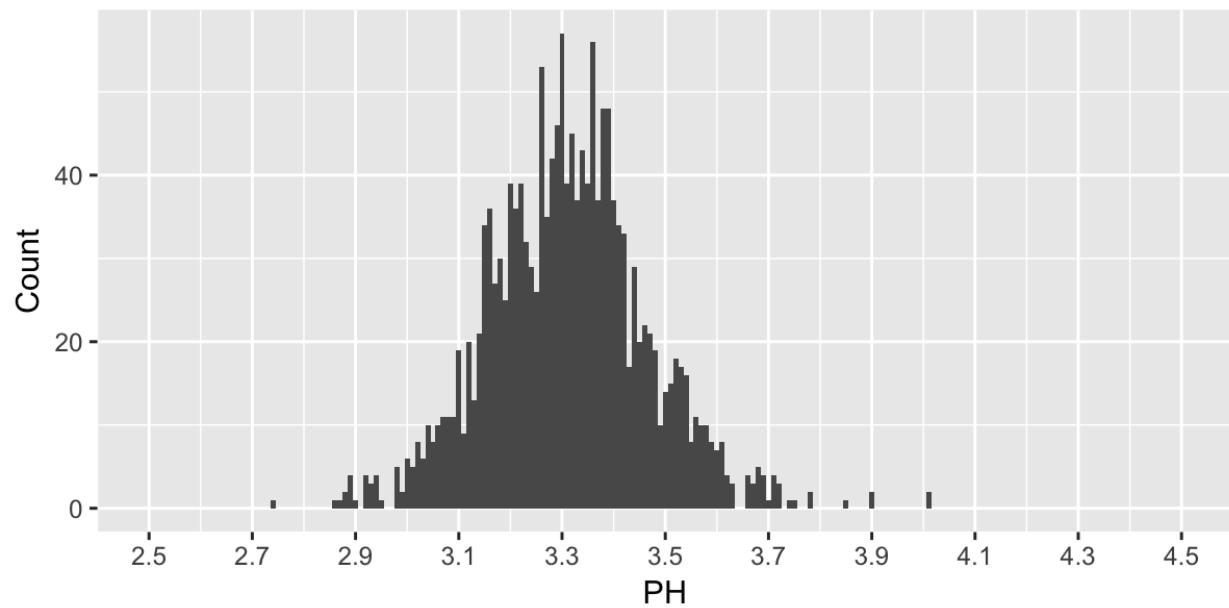


Figure 11: PH Level Distribution

Sulphates

The **Sulphates** distribution has most of its values concentrated around 0.5-0.7, and a few outliers around 1.6 and 2.0. I also check the summary of the table to see where the mean and median are placed.

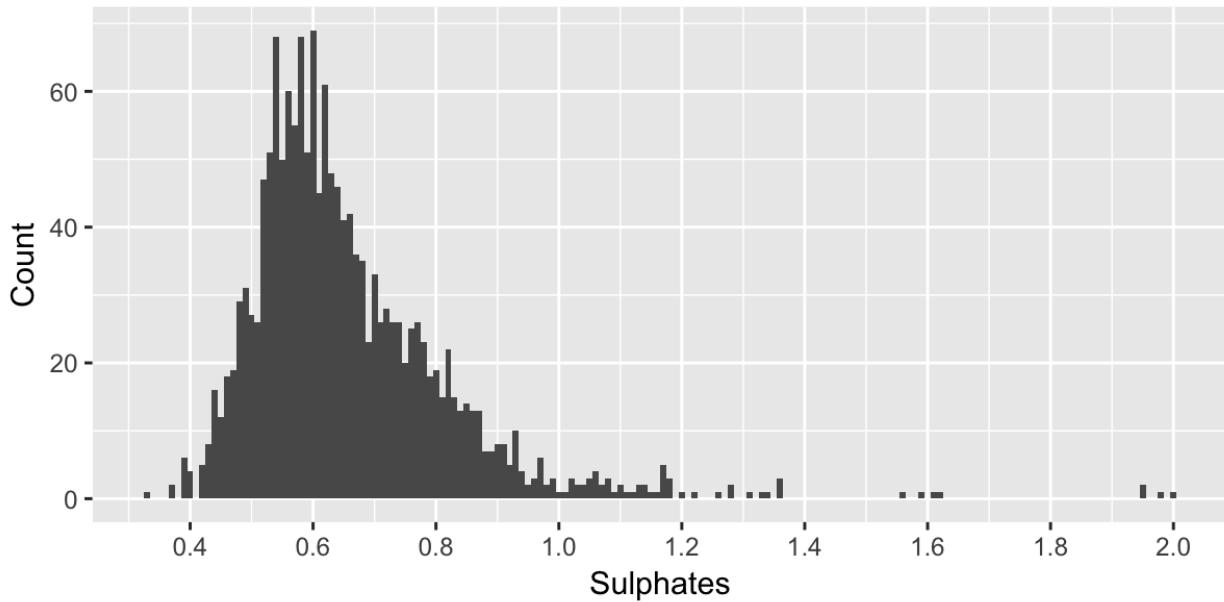


Figure 12: Distribution of Sulphate

The distribution looks normal-ish and is a bit skewed to the left.

```
##      Min. 1st Qu. Median   Mean 3rd Qu.   Max.  
##  0.3300  0.5500  0.6200  0.6581  0.7300  2.0000
```

The mean at 0.65 is within the range where most of the values are. The median at 0.62 looks also close to the mean.

Alcohol

The **Alcohol** distribution has its falls and rises, with its most values around 9.5% of alcohol.

```
##      Min. 1st Qu. Median   Mean 3rd Qu.   Max.  
##     8.40    9.50   10.20  10.42   11.10  14.90
```

The summary of the alcohol table shows the mean alcohol percentage is at 10.42, and the median is 10.20.

Univariate Analysis

Now, I'll answer a few questions regarding the database and my initial analysis.

What is the structure of the dataset?

The dataset has 1599 observations and 13 variables. Since I removed column X, and added column **rating**, the number of variables stay the same.

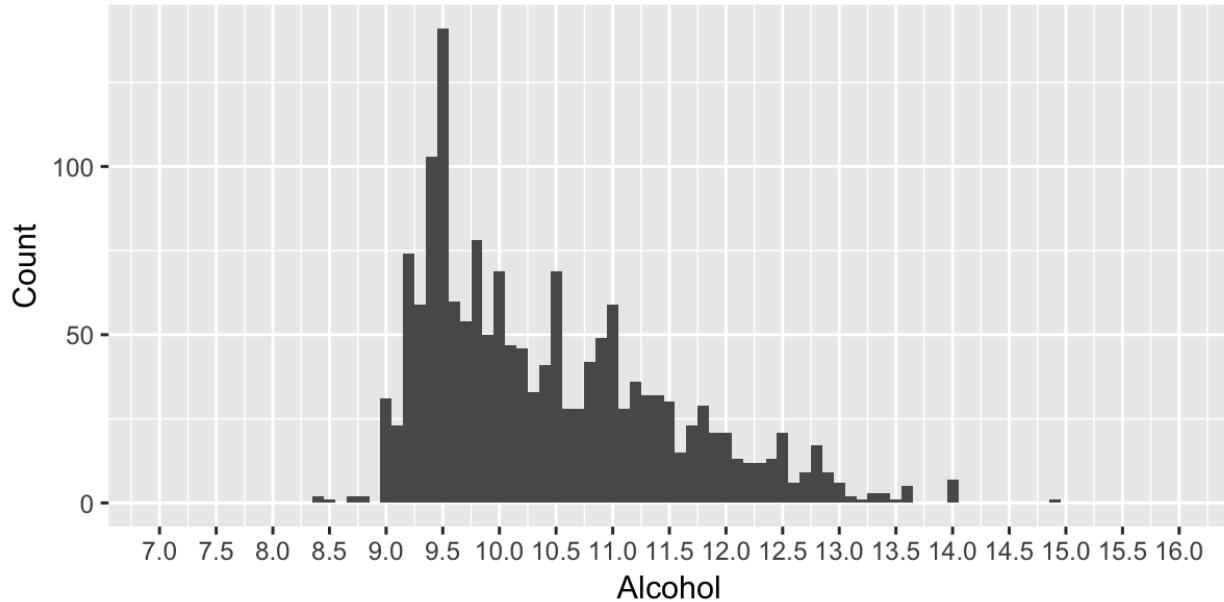


Figure 13: Alcohol Distribution

From the 13 variables, 11 of them are about chemical properties of red wines, 1 is about how the quality of red wine changes based on these chemical properties, and another one is where the red wines fall in the rating system based on their quality.

What is/are the main feature(s) of interest in the dataset?

For me, the two important factors of interest are quality and rating. Further in the analysis I would like to see how the quality changes based on each chemical property.

Also, I would like to see if the alcohol level have any correlations with the quality of red wines.

What other features in the dataset will help support the investigation into the feature(s) of interest?

For quality and rating, all the chemical properties can play an important role in suprting my investigation.

Did you create any new variables from existing variables in the dataset?

Yes, I created a new column `rating` which holds a rating system from Poor to Excellent based on the quality of red wines.

Of the features you investigated, were there any unusual distributions? Did you perform any operations on the data to tidy, adjust, or change the form of the data? If so, why did you do this?

1. I removed the `X` column since it was only holding the row numbers and was not playing any role in my investigation
2. I added the `rating` column to later categories the red wines in quality based on their ratings

3. Regarding the distributions, for Fixed Acidity, Volatile Acidity, Free Sulfur Dioxide and Total Sulfur Dioxide I applied the log-transformation on them to make the distribution more normal-ish.
-

Bivariate Plots Section

With the plots in this section, I would like to dig more into seeing how the chemical properties can affect each other, or the quality of the wine.

An Overview of the Correlations between Variables

For an overview, using `corrplot` function, I want to create a plot that can show me the correlation of chemical properties to each other.

Putting aside the correlation of each property with itself(i.e. 1), let's look at the rest of the patterns.

The circle color for correlation between Total Sulfur Dioxide and Free Sulfur Dioxide is towards the darkest blue shade which shows a positive correlation.

```
## [1] 0.6676665
```

Citric Acid and Fixed Acidity also have a positive correlation. However, both have a negative correlation with the Volatile Acidity.

The statistical calculations show the same thing.

Correlation between Citric Acid and Fixed Acidity:

```
## [1] 0.6717034
```

Correlation between Citric Acid and Volatile Acidity:

```
## [1] -0.5524957
```

Correlation between Fixed Acidity and Volatile Acidity:

```
## [1] -0.2561309
```

Other correlations of interest are :

PH level and Fixed Acidity, as well as PH level and Citric Acid, both having a negative correlations.

Density and Alcohol level also have a negative correlation with each other.

Quality seems to have a positive correlation with Alcohol level.

Plots

Fixed Acidity, Volatile Acidity and Citric Acid

Using three plots I display the relationship between each of the acidity levels.

Fixed Acidity and Citric Acid level seem to have a positive correlation with each other; meaning as the fixed acidity pf red wine increases, the citric acid level also increases.

Fixed acidity and volatile acidity have a negative correlation with each other. Higher levels of volatile acidity has lower levels of fixed acidity.

Citric acid and volatile acidity have a negative correlation with each other as well.

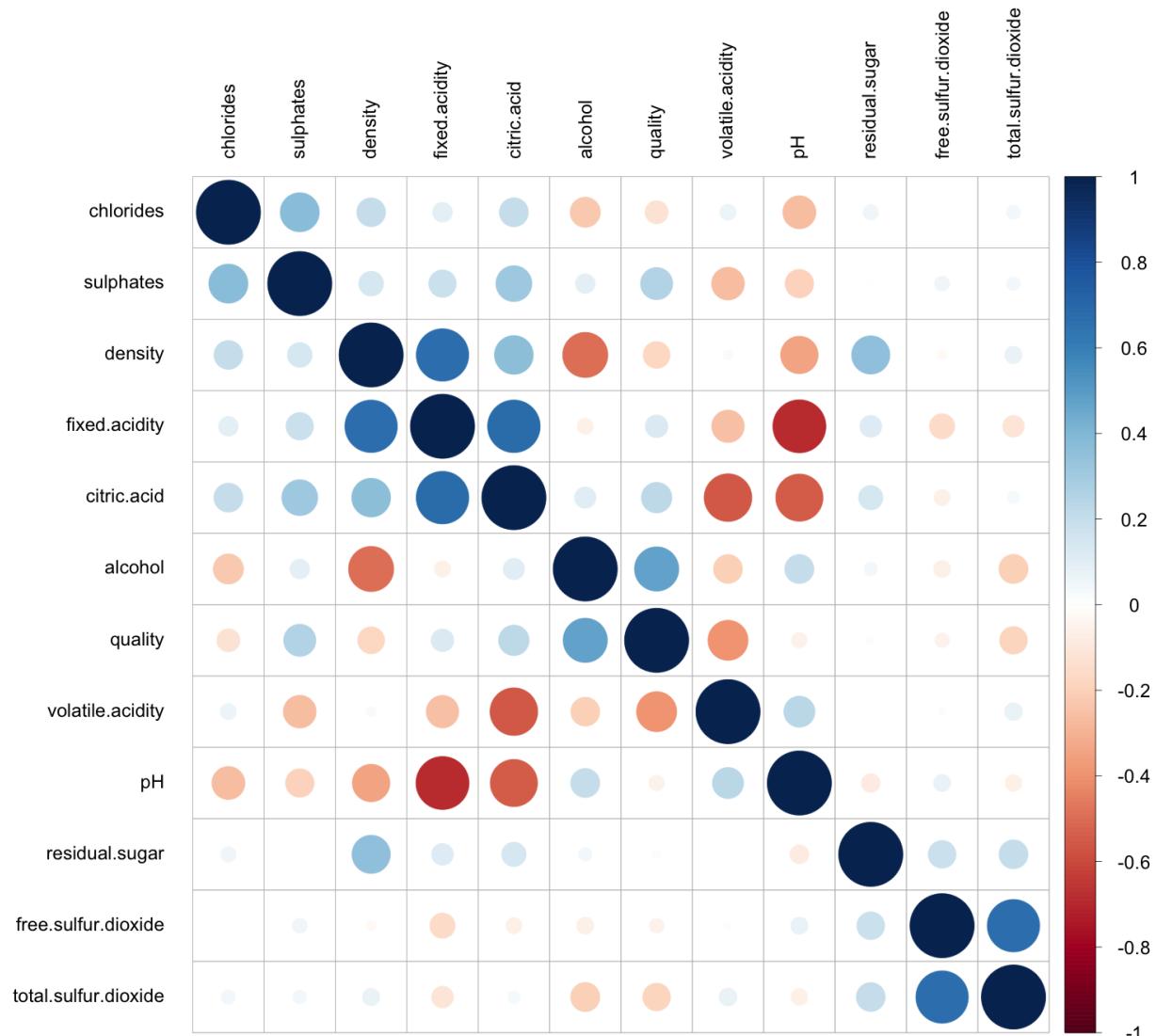


Figure 14: Correlation Plot for Each Chemical Property and Quality of Red Wine

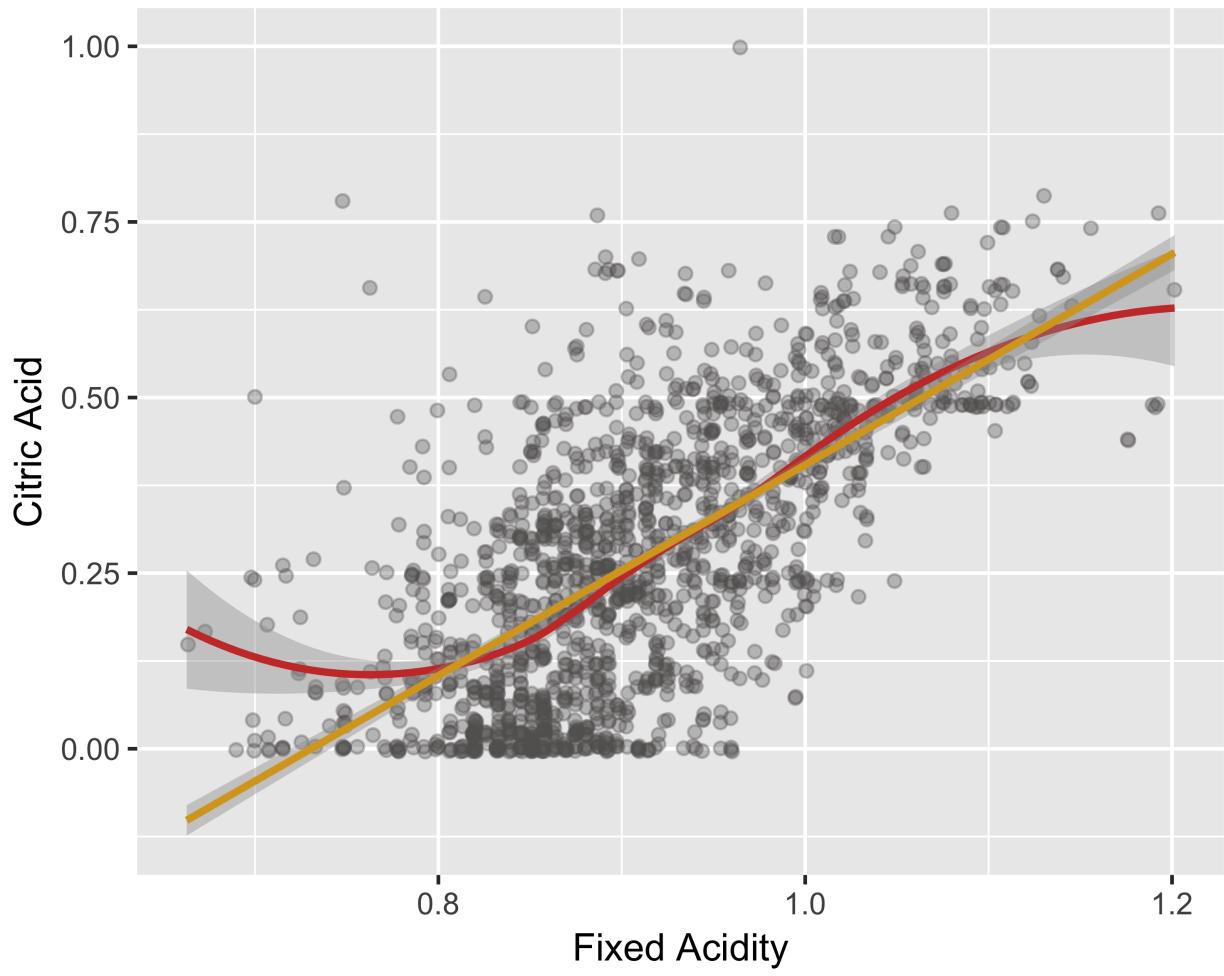


Figure 15: Relation between Fixed Acidity and Citric Acid

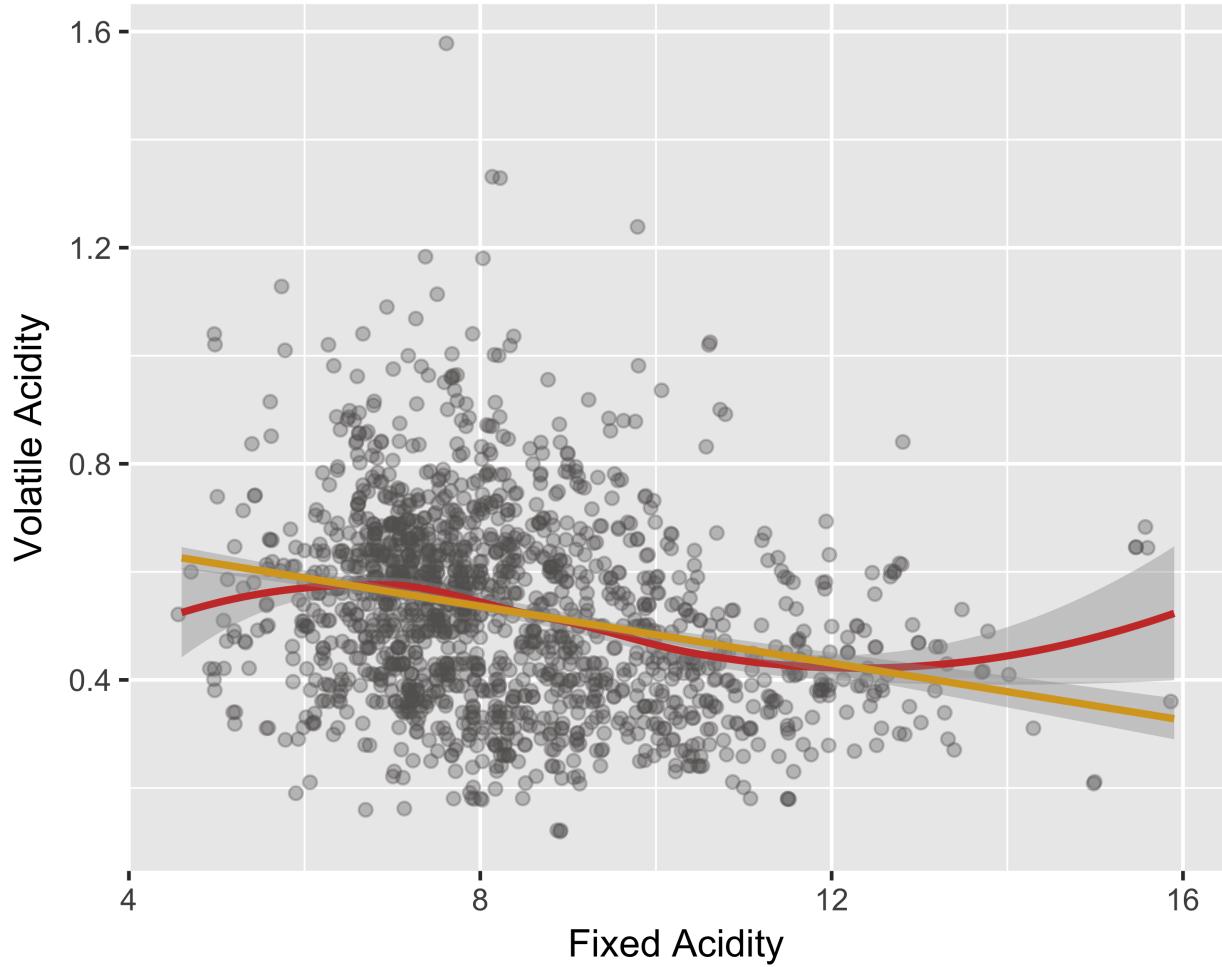


Figure 16: Relation between Fixed Acidity and Volatile Acidity

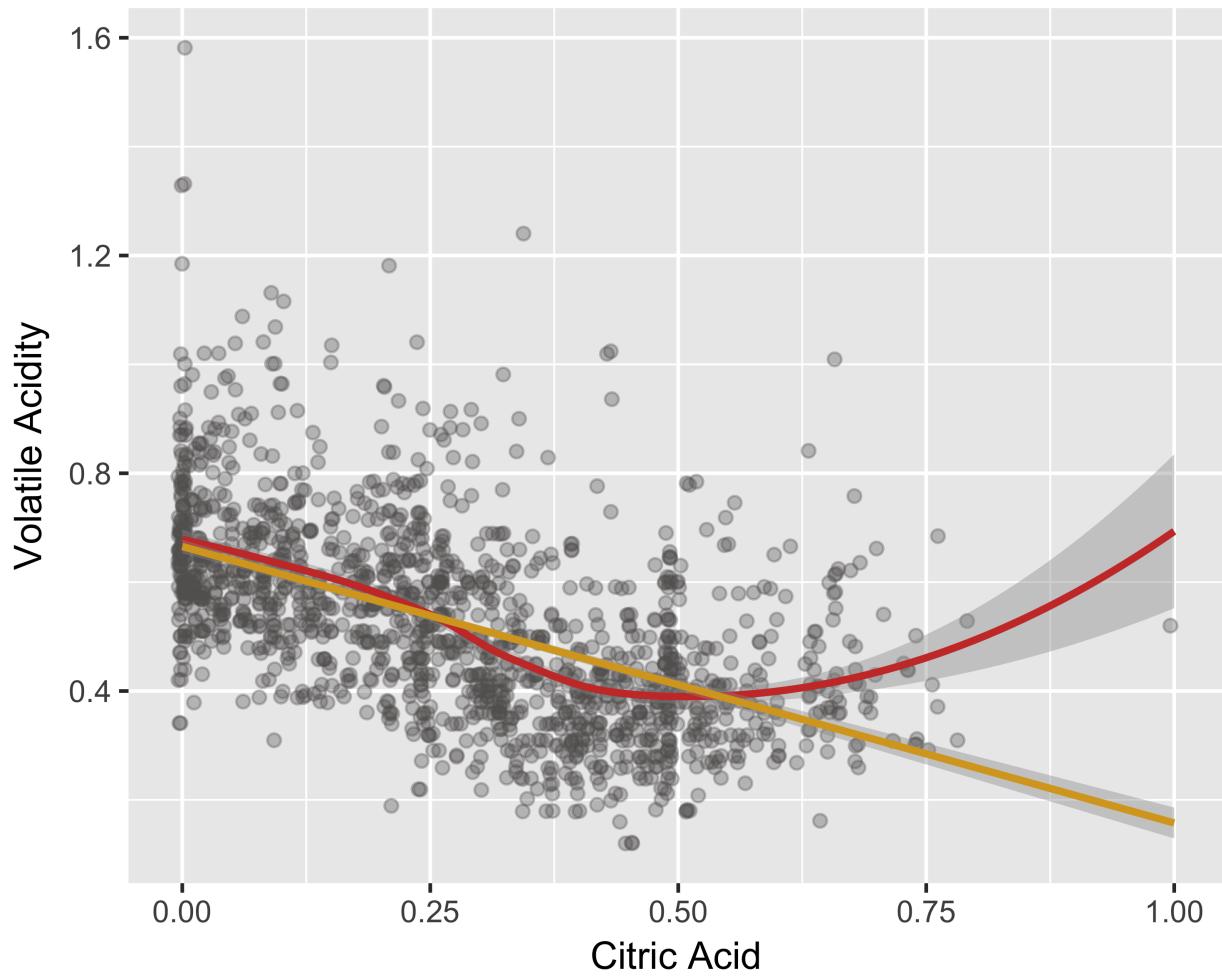


Figure 17: Relation between Citric Acid and Volatile Acidity

Comparing Acidity and PH Levels

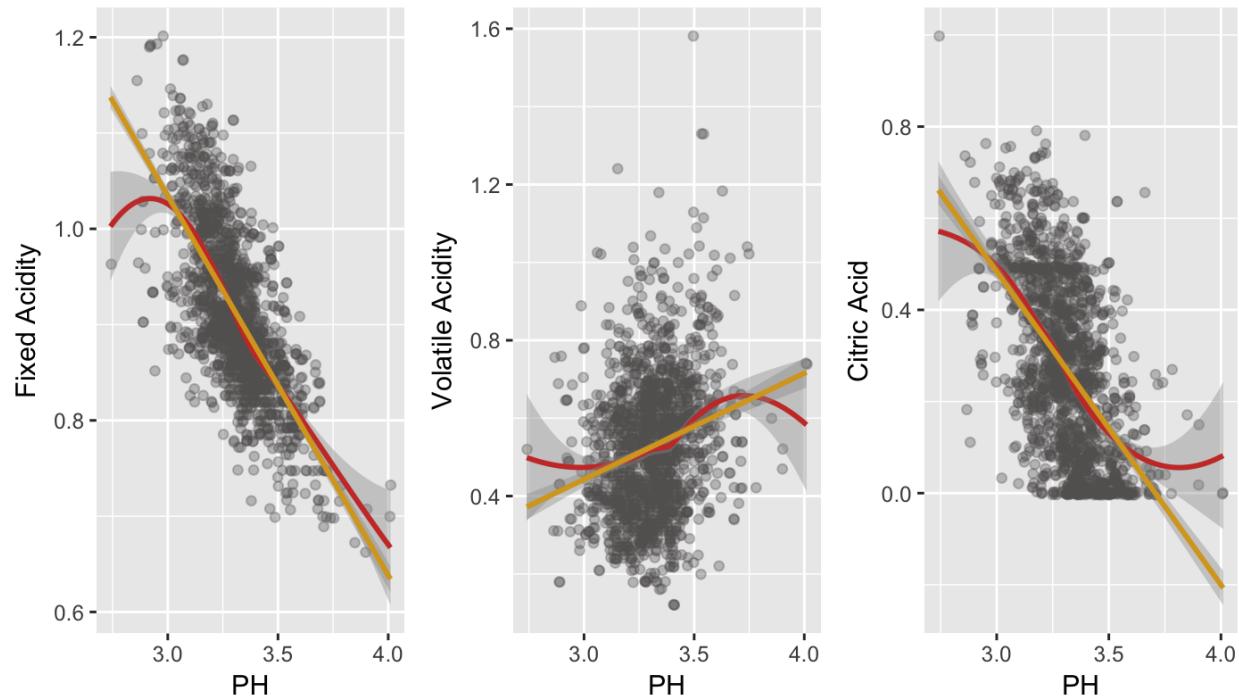


Figure 18: Comparing Acidity with PH Levels

PH level has a positive correlation with volatile acidity and negative correlations with citric acid and fixed acidity which makes sense.

The lower the PH level, the higher is its acidic property. High amount of volatile acidity also causes an unpleasant and vinegar-like taste in red wines. Therefore, it makes sense to see that higher level of acidity (i.e. lower PH level) in PH correlates with higher level of volatile acidity.

In contrast, lower level of acidity in PH (i.e. higher PH level) has a negative correlation with citric acid and fixed acidity levels.

Residual Sugar and Density

Residual sugar and density seem to have a positive correlation with each other. As the density increases, the residual sugar increases as well.

If I also calculate the numeric value of the correlation, it's 0.355. This correlation falls within the range that is not very significant.

Alcohol Level and Density

Density has a negative correlation with the amount of alcohol in red wine, meaning as the density of red wine increases, its amount of alcohol decreases.

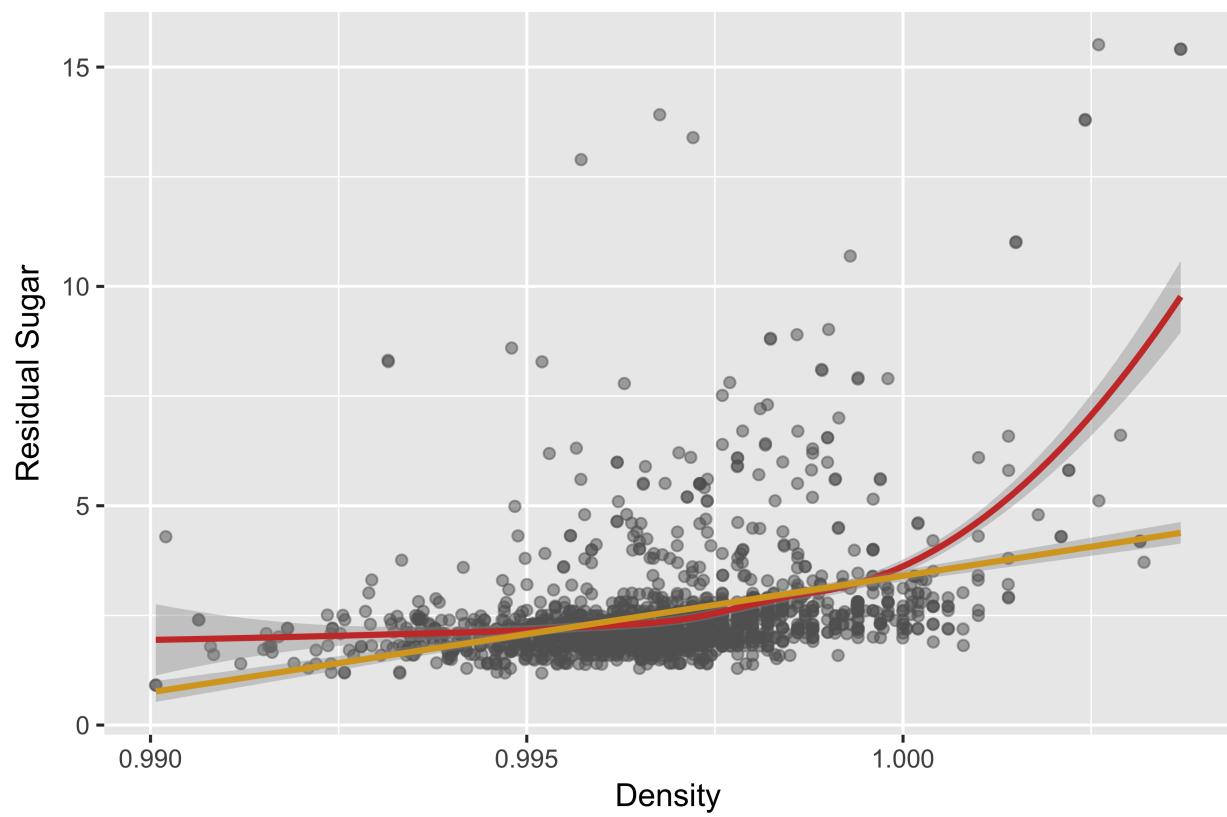


Figure 19: Relation between Residual Sugar and Density

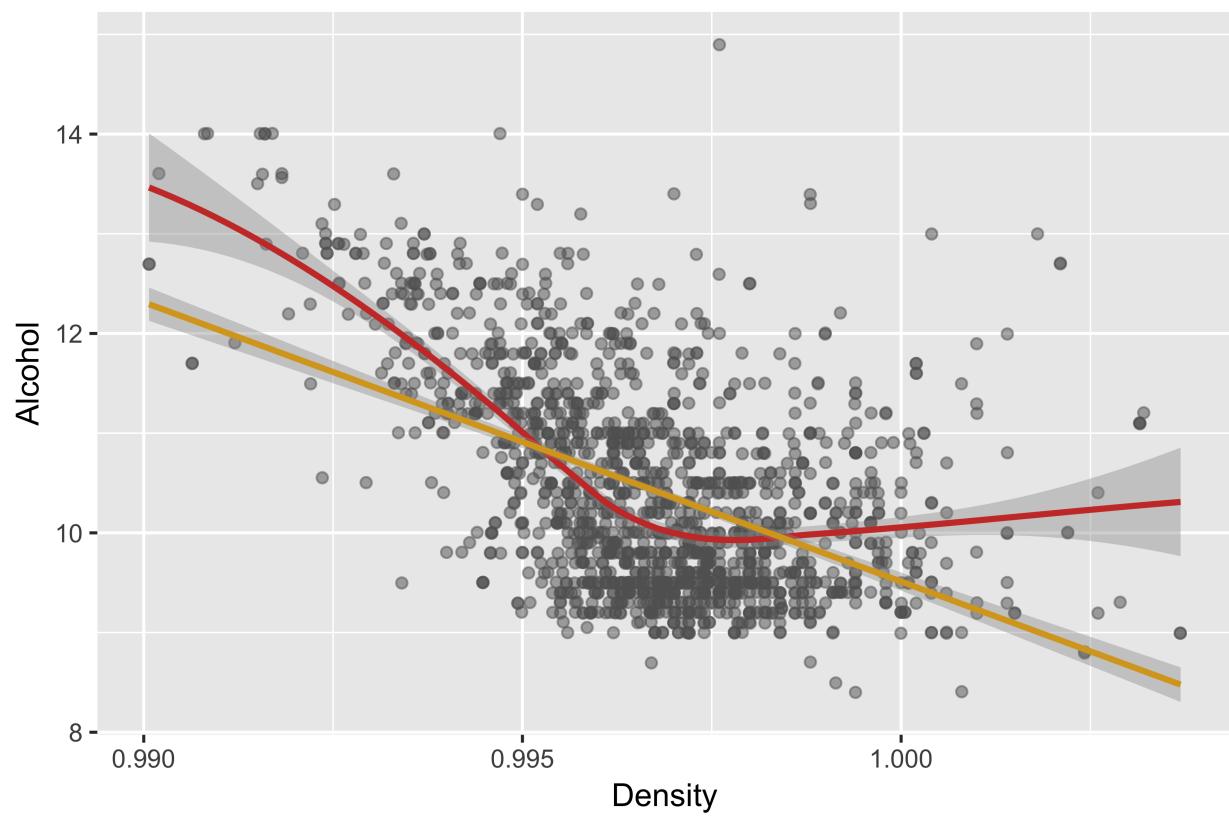


Figure 20: Relation between Alcohol Level and Density

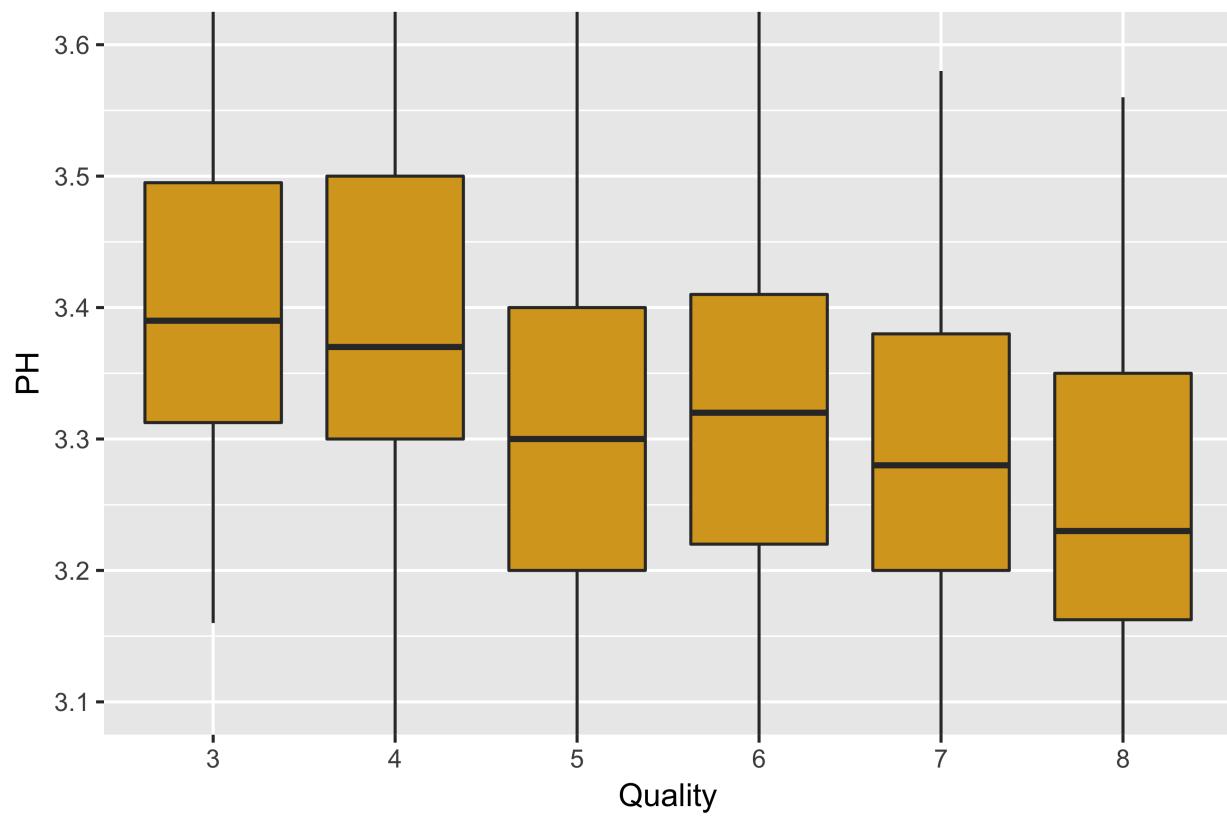


Figure 21: Quality of Red Wine Based on Its PH Level

Comparing Quality with PH, Alcohol, Volatile Acidity Level

I expected to see a wider range for quality 5 and 6 in comparison to other categories, but according to the quality vs. ph plot, it looks like the range of PH level is more or less the same for each category in quality.

The highest median is for quality 3, and the lowest is for quality 8. I expected to see higher PH level for wine quality 8, which means its less acidic, but seems that's not the case.

I calculate the correlation between quality and ph level to double-check my observation from the plot. Seems quality and ph levels are hardly correlated.

```
## [1] -0.05773139
```

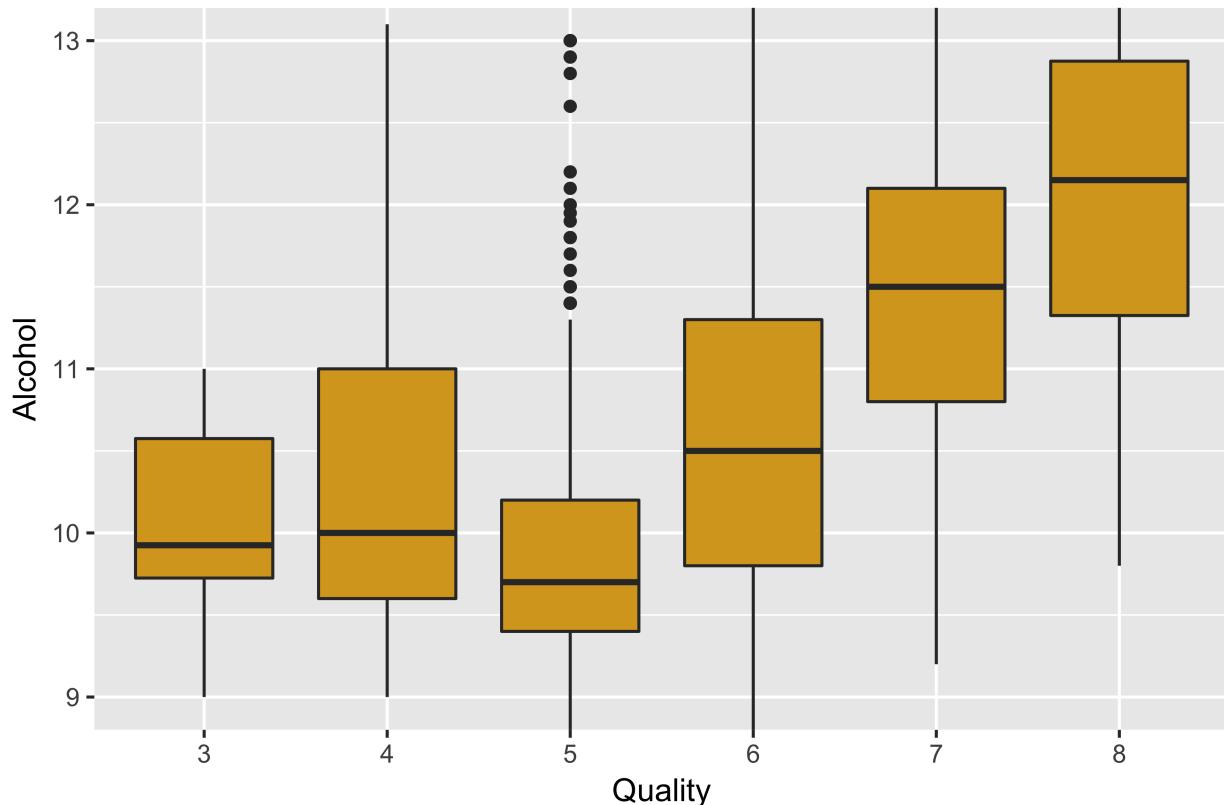


Figure 22: Quality of Red Wine Based on Its Alcohol Level

The highest median for alcohol belongs to a range with quality 8. This supports the positive correlation between wine quality and the level of alcohol.

Quality level 8 also seems to have the widest range among all other categories.

The lowest median for volatile acidity belongs to the highest quality of red wine, which makes sense since the lower the volatile acidity level, the higher will be the quality of wine.

The range of wines with quality 3 or 4 have the widest range of volatile acidity levels.

Bivariate Analysis

I sum up the bivariate section by answering a few more questions about the dataset.

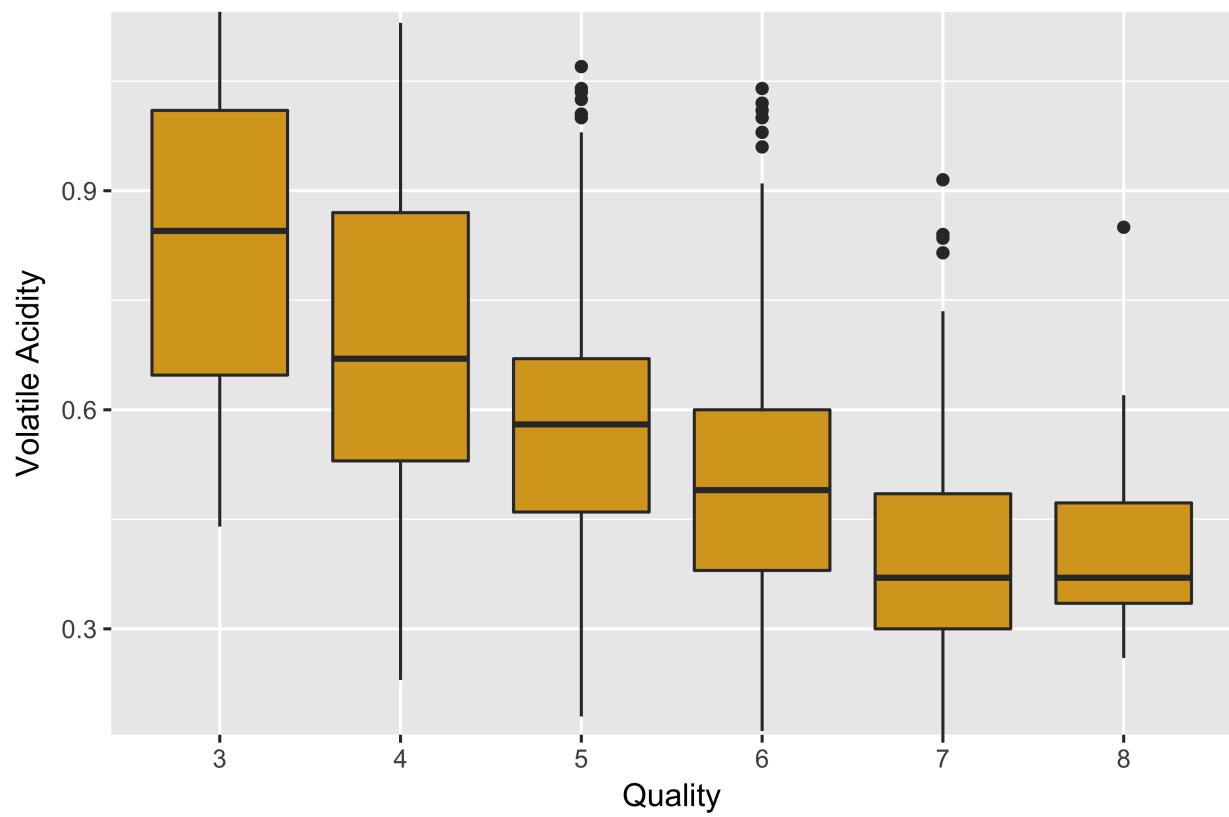


Figure 23: Quality of Red Wine Based on Its Volatile Acidity Level

Talk about some of the relationships observed in this part of the investigation. How did the feature(s) of interest vary with other features in the dataset?

Quality of red wine correlates strongly with the amount of alcohol, and correlates negatively with the volatile acidity level.

PH levels correlate strongly to the citric, fixed and volatile acidity levels. For the unpleasant acidity level (i.e. volatile acidity) the PH level is low, while for citric and fixed acidity level (i.e. pleasant acidity properties) PH level stays higher.

I expected to see PH levels correlating with the quality of wine, but that was not the case. They were hardly correlated.

Did you observe any interesting relationships between the other features (not the main feature(s) of interest)?

I observed that the amount of density is correlated negatively with the amount of alcohol; the more the density, the less the alcohol level. Also, density has a positive correlation with residual sugar level.

What was the strongest relationship you found?

From the variables analyzed, the strongest relationship was between Citric Acid and Fixed Acidity, which had a correlation coefficient of 0.67

Also, PH level and Fixed Acidity had a strong negative correlation of -0.68 with each other

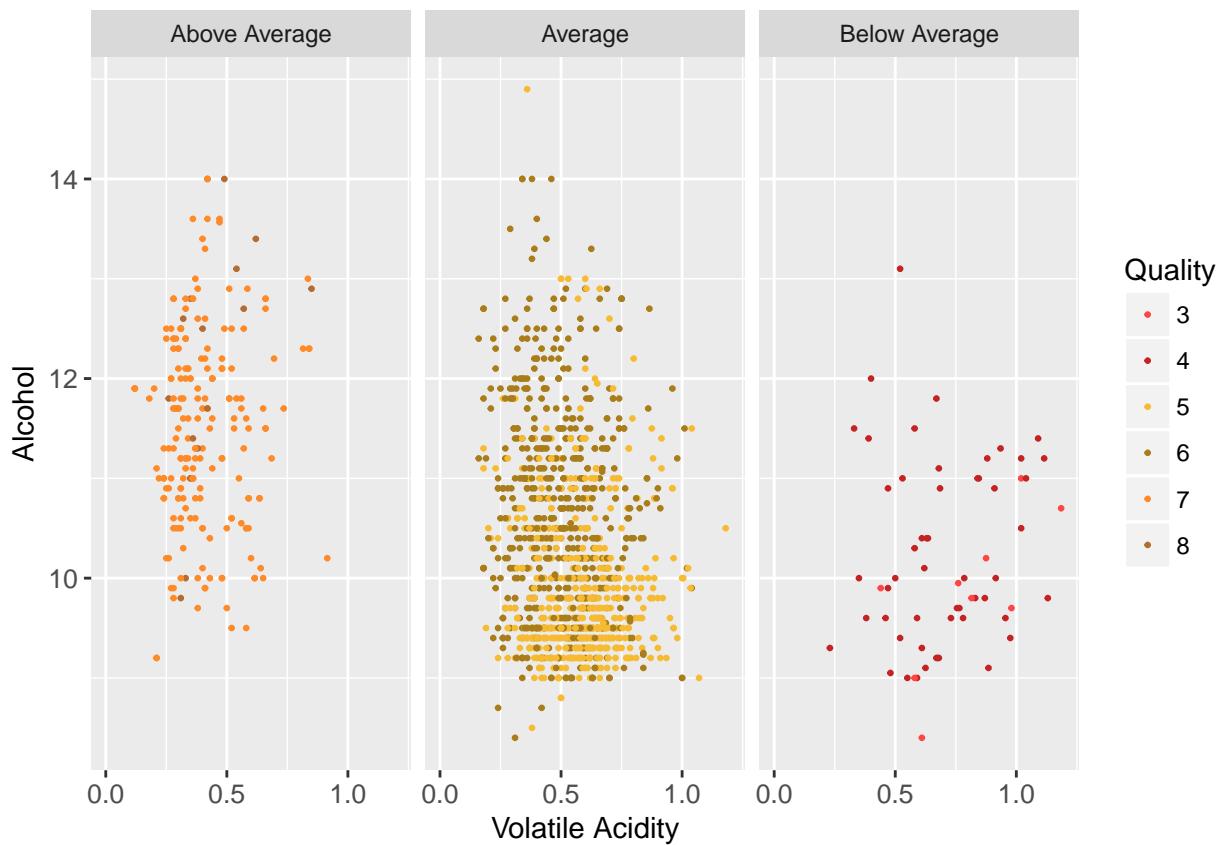
Multivariate Plots Section

Based on some of the relationships found between the properties in bivariate plots, I take my analysis further by comparing those relationship with regards to the quality of wine and ratings. I am very excited to specifically dive more into data from Volatile Acidity, Citric Acid, Fixed Acidity, PH, Alcohol, and Density, and find out how the combination of them can influence the quality.

Ratings Based on Volatile Acidity and Alcohol

I first look into different acidity and alcohol levels.

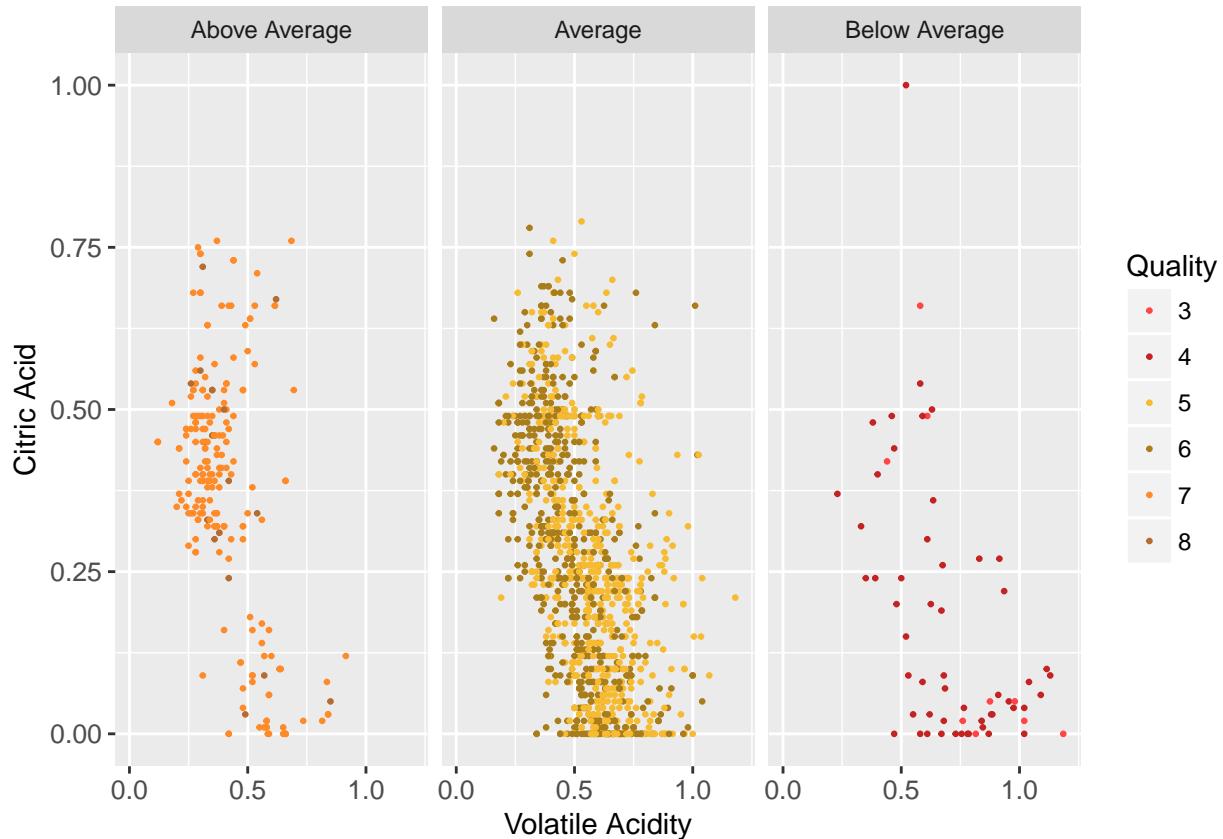
Volatile acidity in high amounts seems to lower the quality of wine. High amount of alcohol on the other hand leads to a better wine quality.



Looks like a higher amount of volatile acidity can decrease the influence of high amount of alcohol. As the volatile acidity goes higher, the quality of wine drops, but as the volatile acidity goes lower and alcohol level increases, the quality increases.

Ratings Based on Volatile Acidity and Citric Acid

Since the existence of citric acid adds freshness to wine, it can have a positive correlation with its quality. Now, I would like to see how it compares with volatile acidity levels.



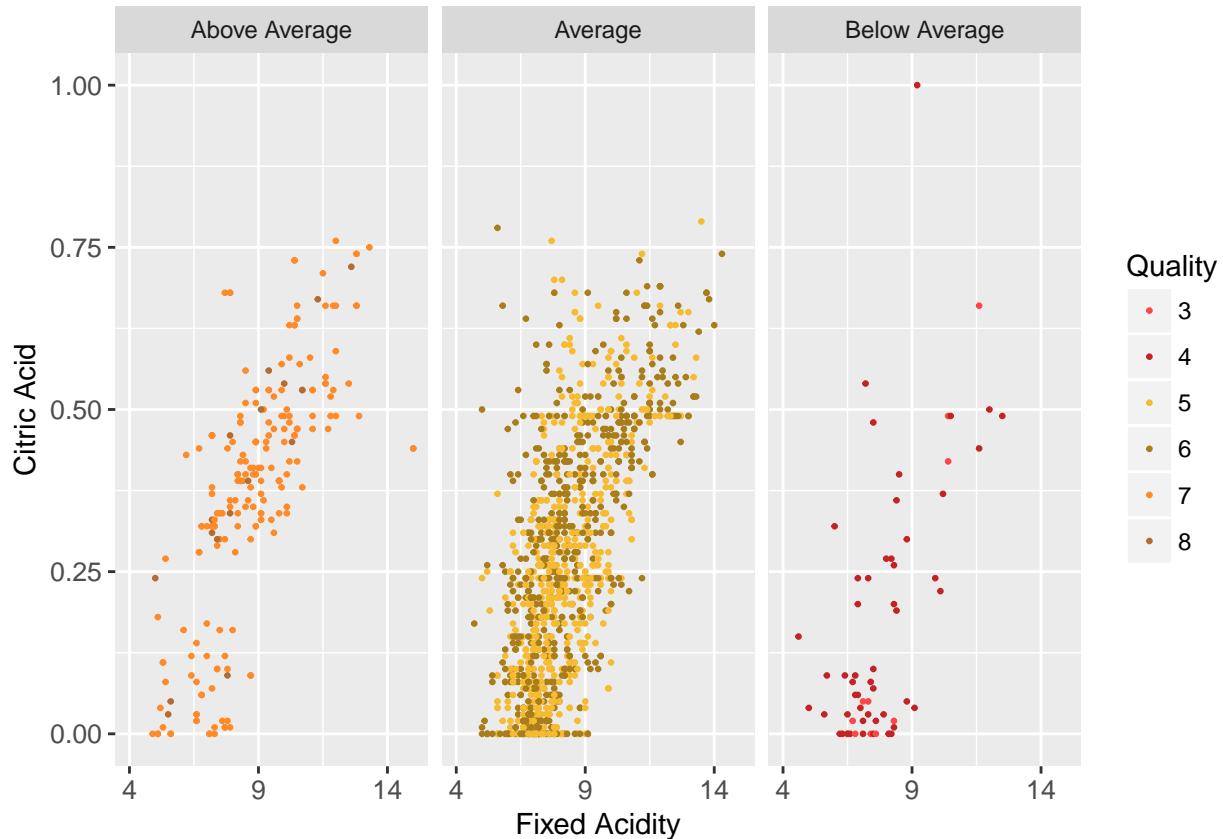
Looks like high amount of volatile acidity can have more influence on the quality of wine than citric acid. For instance, looking at the 'Below Average' section, there are points with high level of citric acid (from its median 0.26 to 0.50), but due to high level of volatile acidity, they are categorized in the below average section.

```
##      Min. 1st Qu. Median   Mean 3rd Qu.   Max.
##      0.000  0.090  0.260  0.271  0.420  1.000
```

Ratings Based on Citric Acid and Fixed Acidity

```
## [1] "Correlation between Citric Acid and Quality"
## [1] 0.2263725
## [1] "Correlation between Fixed Acidity and Quality"
## [1] 0.1240516
## [1] "Correlation between Citric Acid and Fixed Acidity"
## [1] 0.6717034
```

Fixed acidity and citric acid have a strong correlation of 0.671, while both have positive correlations with quality. Citric acid has a stronger positive correlation with quality (0.226) than what fixed acidity has with it (0.124).



The positive correlation between citric acid and fixed acidity with each other and with quality is also visible in this plot. However, citric acid and fixed acidity together cannot influence the quality of wine. As seen in the ‘Below Average’ section, there are points on the plot where both citric acid is around 0.50 and fixed acidity is around 13 - both numbers are in the 90 percentile - but the quality of wine is at level 3 or 4 which is quite poor.

Another interesting point about this plot is how many points fall on the zero y-axis (i.e. citric acid level is zero), especially in Average and Below Average section. This makes me doubt whether it is a mistake, or that some high quality wines have zero level of citric acid. Does this mean no “freshness”?

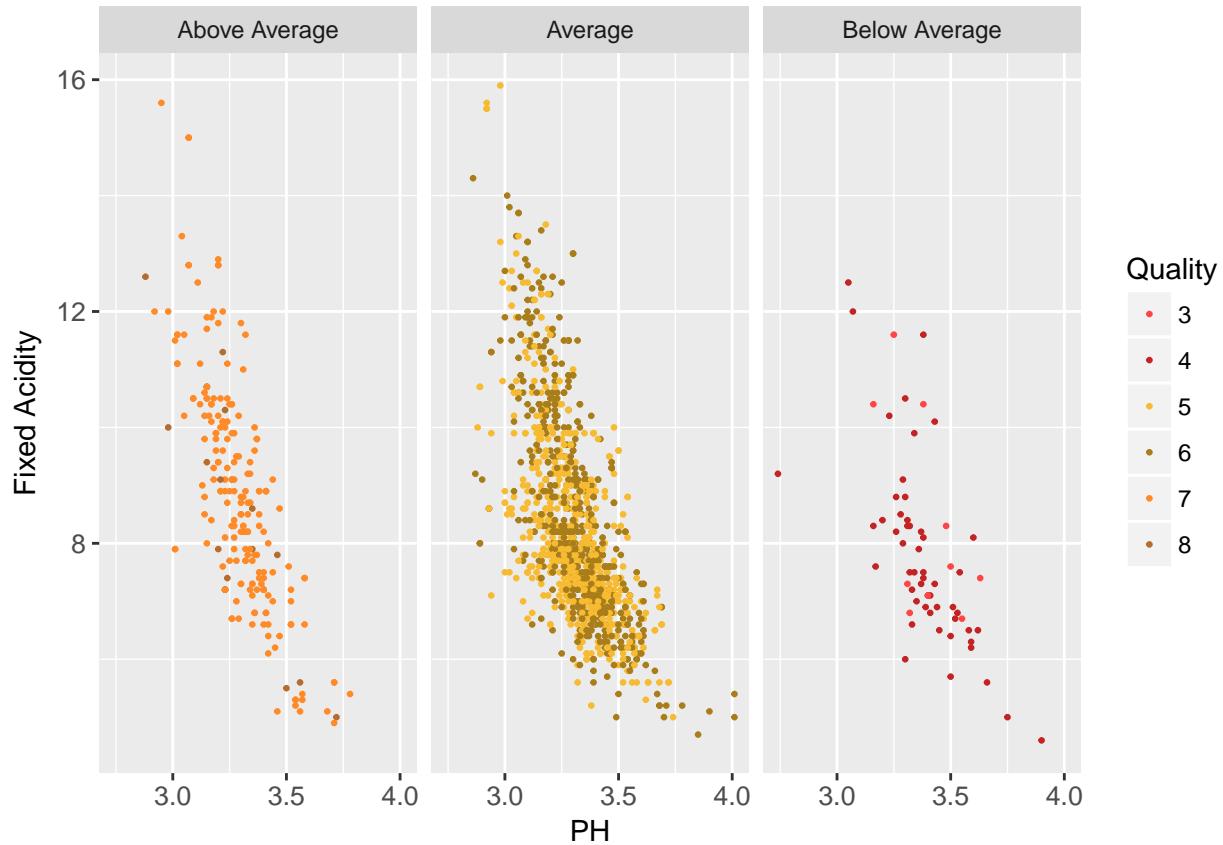
```
## [1] "Fixed Acidity"
##      Min. 1st Qu. Median     Mean 3rd Qu.    Max.
##      4.60    7.10   7.90    8.32   9.20   15.90
## [1] "Citric Acid"
##      Min. 1st Qu. Median     Mean 3rd Qu.    Max.
##      0.000   0.090   0.260   0.271   0.420   1.000
```

Ratings Based on PH and Fixed Acidity

PH is another interesting property for me since it defines the level of acidity and basic of wine.

```
## [1] -0.6829782
```

Fixed acidity and PH have a strong negative correlation with each other. Let’s take a look at their plot in comparison with quality of wine.



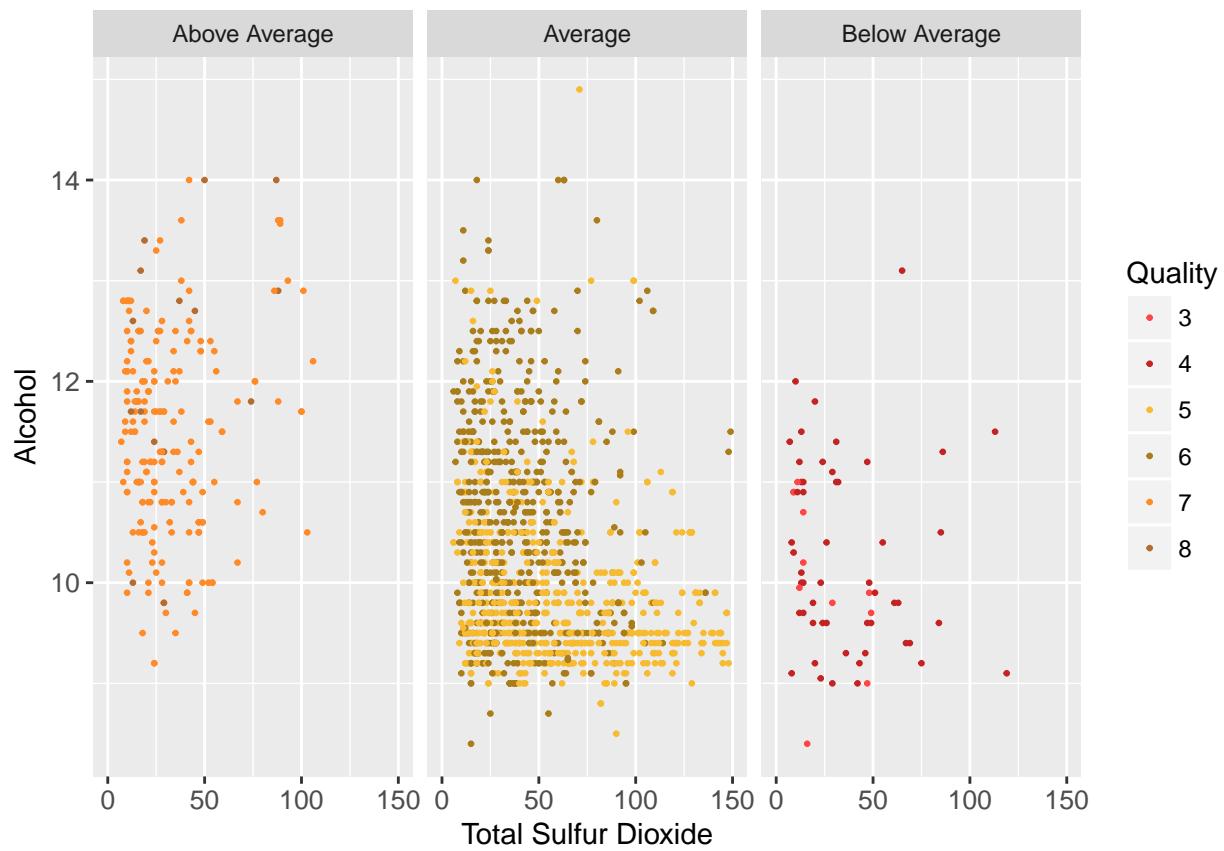
Looks like very high levels of PH cannot necessarily influence the quality of wine. This is also visible from their correlation (-0.05) that is not significant.

```
## [1] "Correlation between PH and Quality"
## [1] -0.05773139
```

Also, high levels of fixed acidity, alone, cannot define the quality of wine.

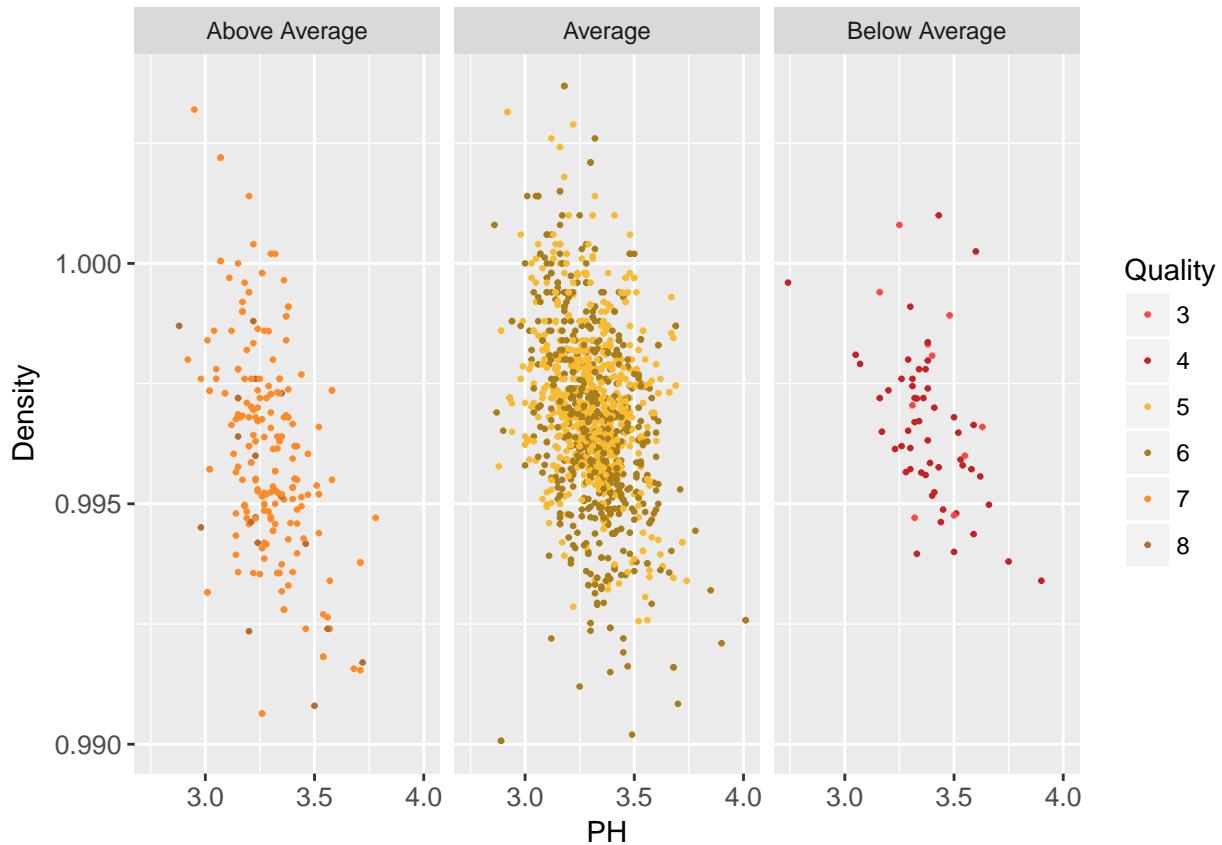
Ratings Based on Total Sulfur Dioxide and Alcohol

High amount of total sulfur dioxide becomes visible in the nose and taste of wine. This is my idea means that it does not make wine have a better quality; however, I would like to check this to find out. To compare, I add alcohol as another metric to find out whether higher level of alcohol has any correlation with higher amount of total sulfur dioxide.



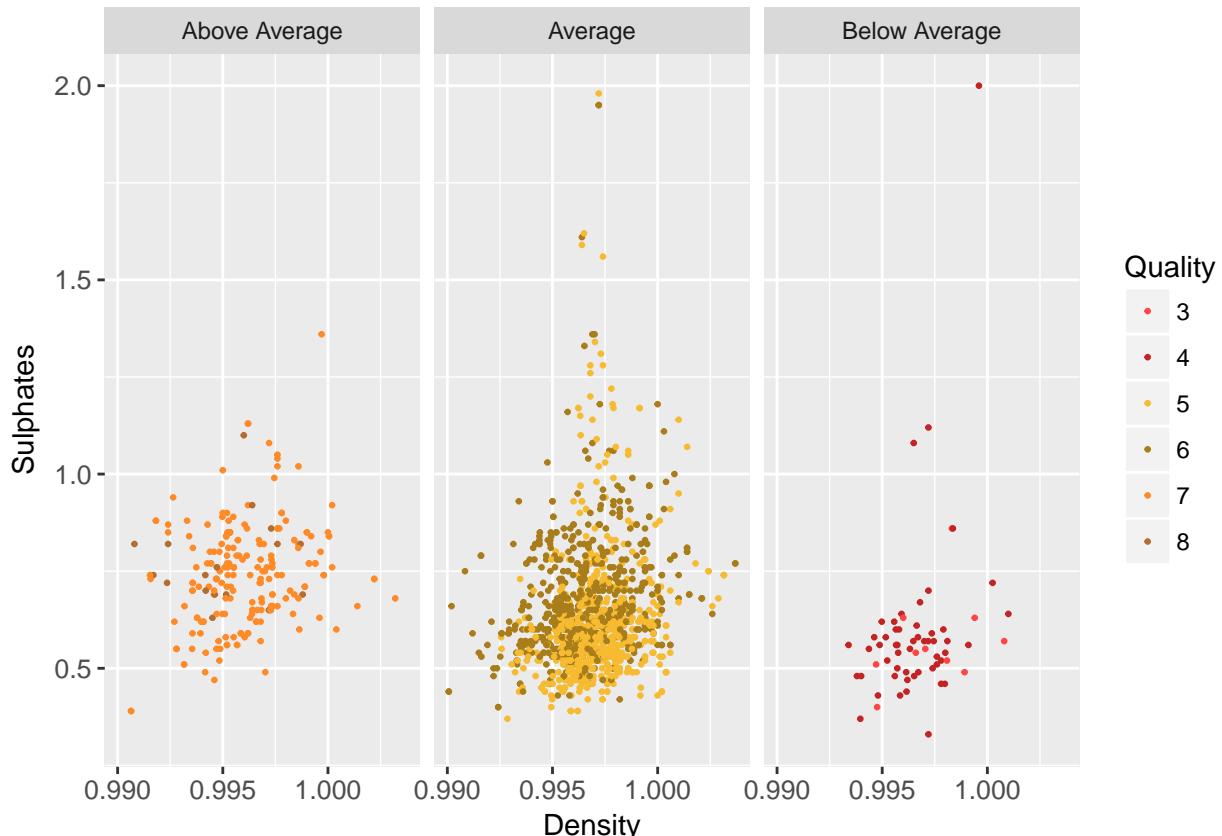
Looks like the less the amount of total sulfur dioxide and the higher the level of alcohol, the higher quality of wine we have. The statistical correlation of -0.205 between total sulfur dioxide and alcohol also supports the plot.

Ratings Based on PH and Density



An interesting point for me in this plot is to see that lower levels of PH (i.e. high acidity) can still cause a high density and good wine quality. At the same time, they can cause a bad quality wine as well. This means the influence of other chemical factors are more significant in defining the quality of wine.

Ratings Based on Density and Sulphates

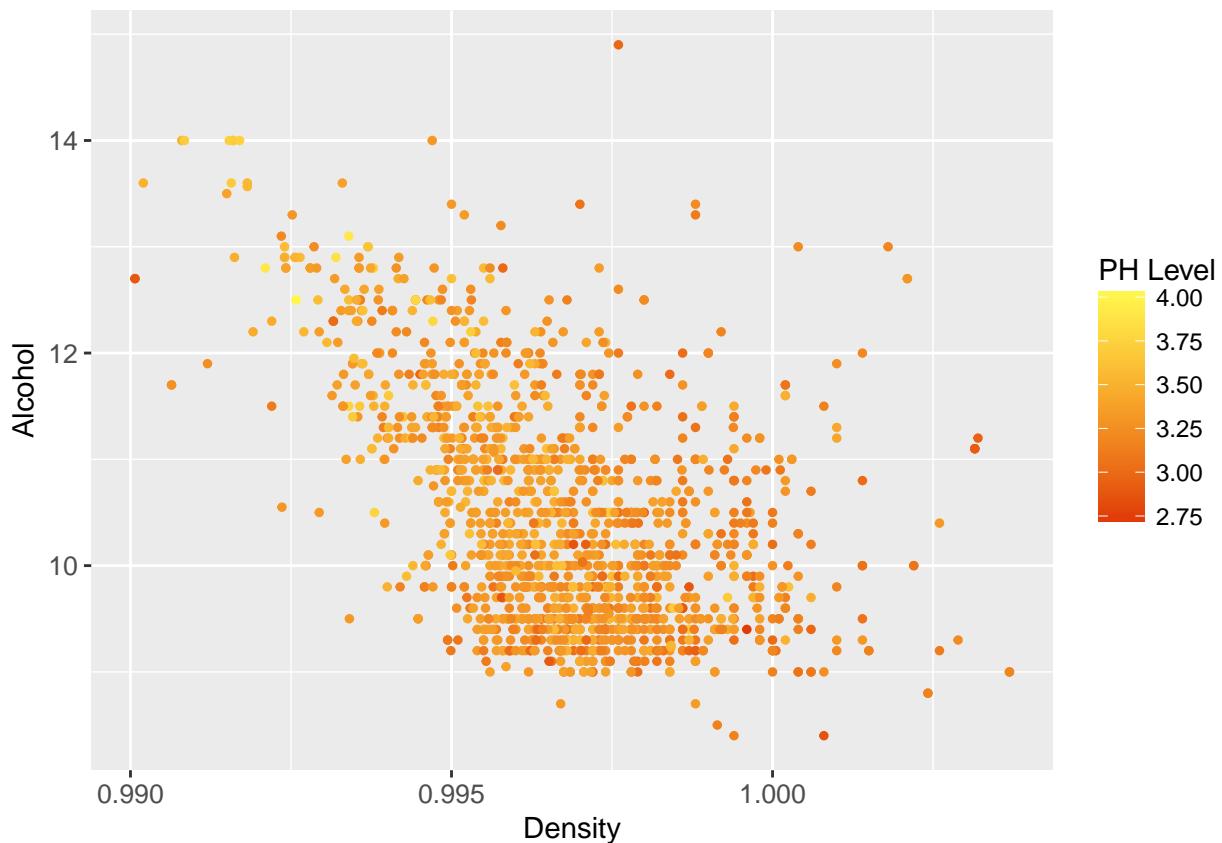


```
## [1] "Correlation between Density and Sulphates"  
## [1] 0.1485064  
## [1] "Correlation between Density and Quality"  
## [1] -0.1749192  
## [1] "Correlation between Sulphates and Quality"  
## [1] 0.2513971
```

Although it seems that higher density in wine does not correlate with higher quality of wine, sulphates level has a stronger influence on the quality. There are many points where the density is high, but because of higher sulphates level, the overall quality seems to be higher.

Relationship of Alcohol and Density with PH Level

Earlier in the bivariate analysis, I observed that alcohol has a negative correlation with density. I would like to now observe how they behave when I compare both to PH level.



Seems higher level of PH correlated with higher level of alcohol and lower level of density, which altogether makes me think that the amount of alcohol plays a very important role in defining the overall quality of wine.

```
## [1] 0.2056325
```

Multivariate Analysis

Talk about some of the relationships you observed in this part of the investigation. Were there features that strengthened each other in terms of looking at your feature(s) of interest?

Overall it looked like a few chemical properties such as alcohol, volatile acidity, ph, and citric acid had more influence in quality of the wine.

Alcohol was one of the chemical properties that caught me by surprise. Initially before doing the investigation on data, I guessed higher levels of alcohol could influence the taste and quality of wine in a negative way. However, in all the analysis I did on alcohol, the higher the level, the higher the quality of wine, and less the amount of other bad chemicals like volatile acidity and total sulfur dioxide.

Observing fixed acidity and PH showed there was a strong negative correlation of -0.682 between them; meaning the more basic the wine, the lower is its fixed acidity level. However, if the fixed acidity level is low, it bring a lower quality in wine.

Were there any interesting or surprising interactions between features?

One of the interesting interactions was between volatile acidity and citric acid. The amount of volatile acidity has a more significant influence on quality of wine than citric acid. Those wines with higher volatile acidity also had less amount of citric acid.

Alcohol and PH level seem to have a positive correlation with each other. Higher amount of alcohol correlated with higher PH level. Before starting this analysis, I was guessing that higher amount of alcohol should bring more acidity to the taste of wine, but according to my analysis, it made me see a different pattern. High levels of alcohol does not mean that the wine taste more acidic.

Relationship between Alcohol and Total Sulfur Dioxide was of interest for me as well. Since total sulfur dioxide bring a nose to the taste of wine, I initially guessed that it could have a positive correlation with the amount of alcohol in that wine, which is not true.

OPTIONAL: Did you create any models with your dataset? Discuss the strengths and limitations of your model.