Data Terminology

After this video you will be able to..

- Describe what a feature is and how it relates to a sample
- Name some alternative terms for ‘feature’
- Summarize how a categorical feature differs from a numerical feature

Terms to Describe Data

Variables

Samples

ID	Date	MinTemp	MaxTemp	Rainfall
1	2010-06-17	55	75	0.1
2	2010-06-18	52	78	0.0
3	2010-06-19	50	78	0.0
4	2010-06-20	54	77	0.0

Terms to Describe Data

Variables

Samples

ID	Date	MinTemp	MaxTemp	Rainfall
1	2010-06-17	55	75	0.1
2	2010-06-18	52	78	0.0
3	2010-06-19	50	78	0.0
4	2010-06-20	54	77	0.0

Terms to Describe Data

Variables

Samples

ID	Date	MinTemp	MaxTemp	Rainfall
1	2010-06-17	55	75	0.1
2	2010-06-18	52	78	0.0
3	2010-06-19	50	78	0.0
4	2010-06-20	54	77	0.0

Other Names for ‘Sample’

sample

row

instance

observation

record

example

Samples

ID	Date	MinTemp	MaxTemp	Rainfall
1	2010-06-17	55	75	0.1
2	2010-06-18	52	78	0.0
3	2010-06-19	50	78	0.0
4	2010-06-20	54	77	0.0

Other Names for ‘Variable’

variable

feature

dimension

column

attribute

field

Variables

ID	Date	MinTemp	MaxTemp	Rainfall
1	2010-06-17	55	75	0.1
2	2010-06-18	52	78	0.0
3	2010-06-19	50	78	0.0
4	2010-06-20	54	77	0.0

Data Types

- Most common

Numeric **Categorical**

- Others

String **Date** **…**

Numeric Variables

- Values are numbers
- Also called ‘quantitative’

1

$7x10^5$

-0.4902

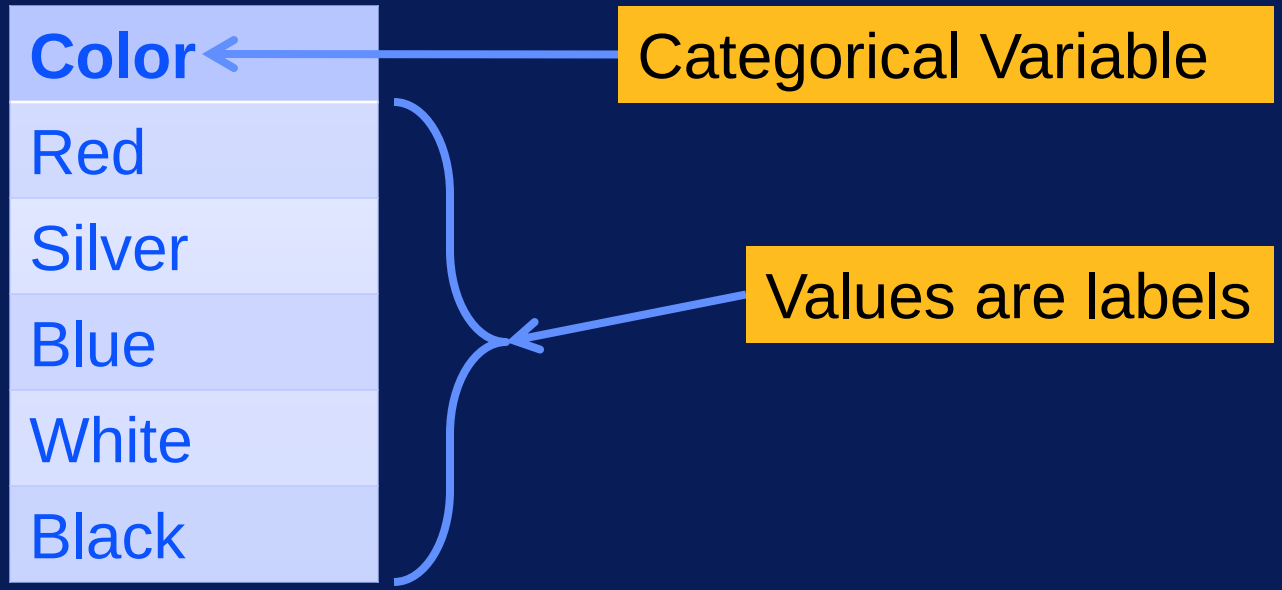
163.92

Examples of Numeric Variables

- Height
- Score on an exam
- Number of transactions per hour
- Change in stock price

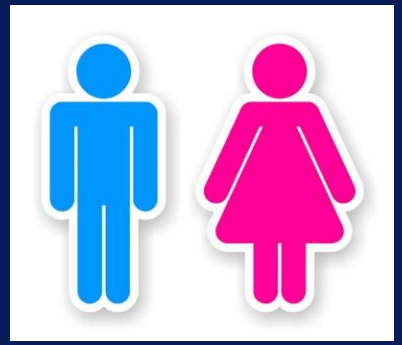
Categorical Variables

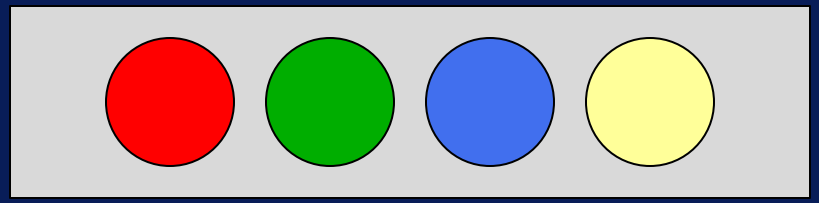
- Values are labels, names, or categories
- Also called ‘qualitative’ or ‘nominal’



Examples of Categorical Variables

- Gender
- Marital status
- Type of customer
- Product categories
- Color of an item





Sample

- Instance
- Record
- Row
- Observation
- …

Variable

- Feature
- Field
- Column
- …

Variables

Samples

ID	Date	MinTemp	MaxTemp	Rainfall
1	2010-06-17	55	75	0.1
2	2010-06-18	52	78	0.0
3	2010-06-19	50	78	0.0
4	2010-06-20	54	77	0.0

Categorical

Qualitative
Nominal

Numeric

Quantitative

Data Exploration

After this video you will be able to..

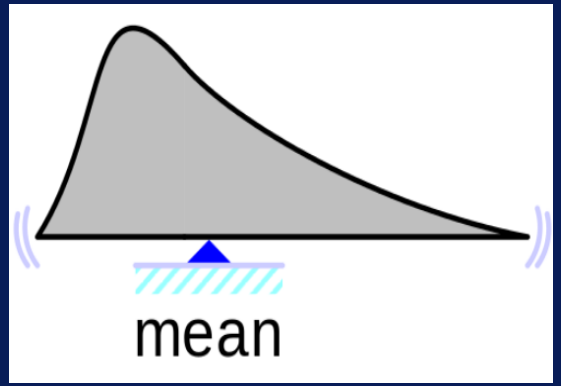
- Explain why data exploration is necessary
- Articulate the objectives for data exploration
- List the categories of techniques for exploring data

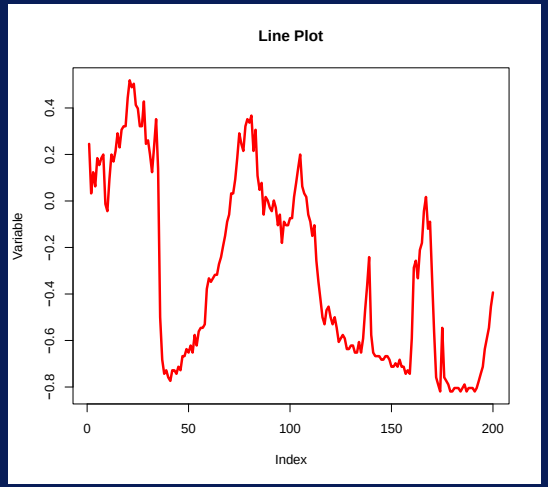
Why Explore Data?

Goal: To understand your data

Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA)

Ways to Explore Data



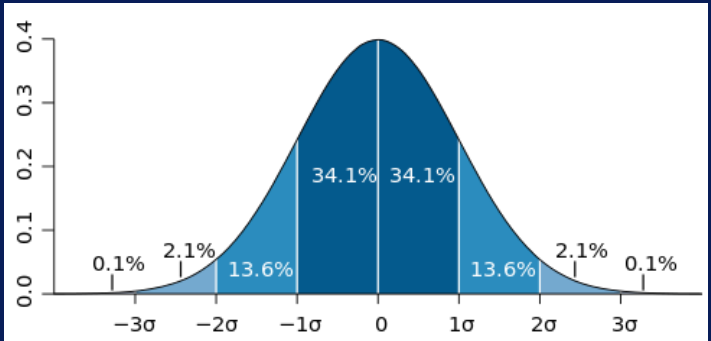


Summary Statistics

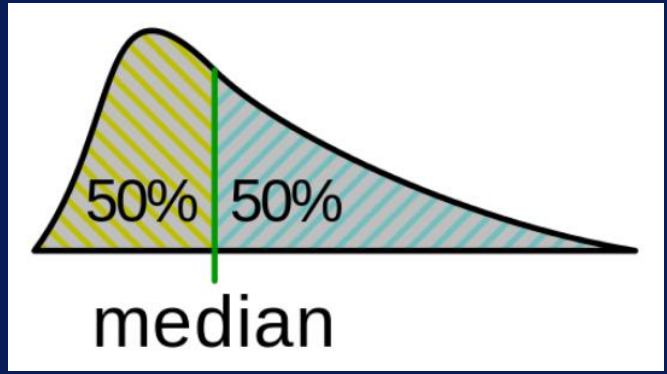
Visualization

Summary Statistics

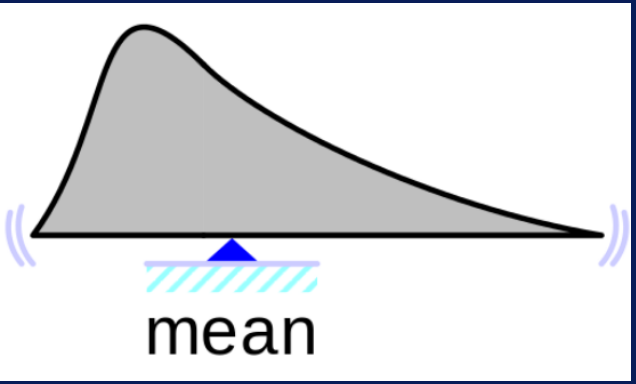
- **Information that summarizes dataset**



standard deviation



median

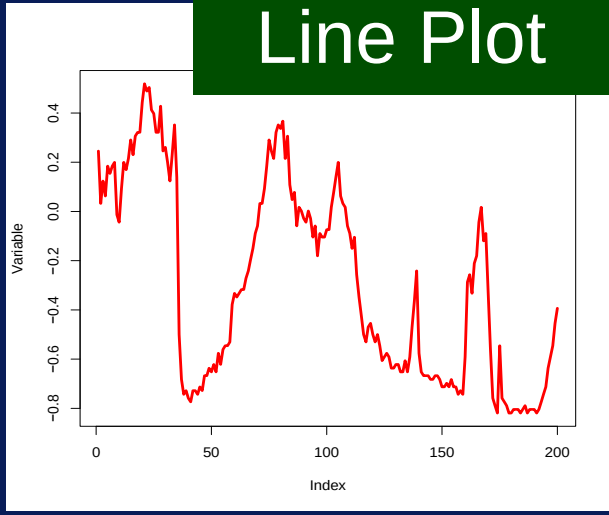


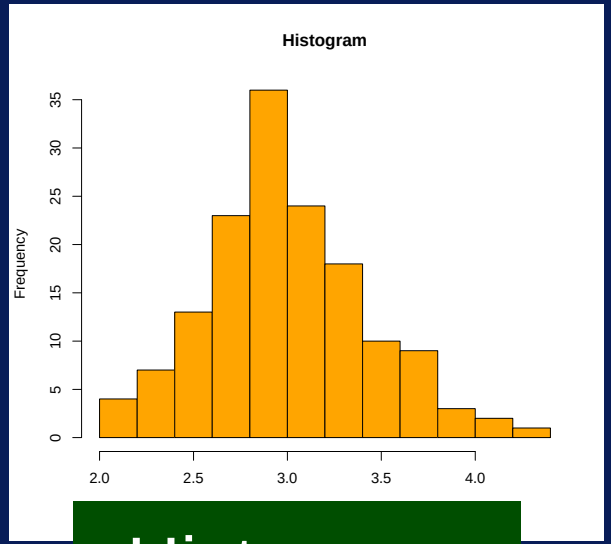
mean

Data Visualization

- **Look at data graphically**

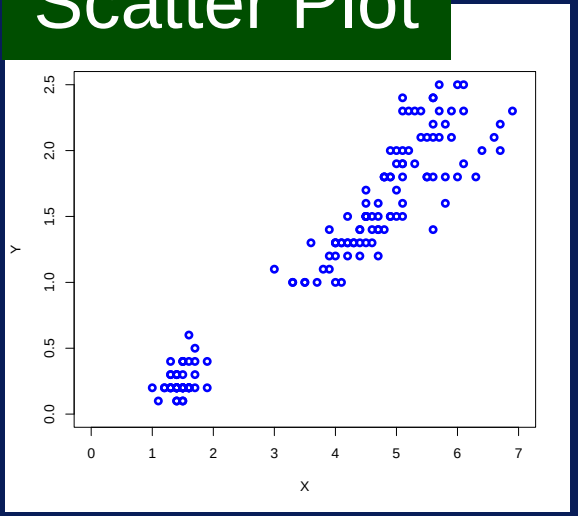
Line Plot





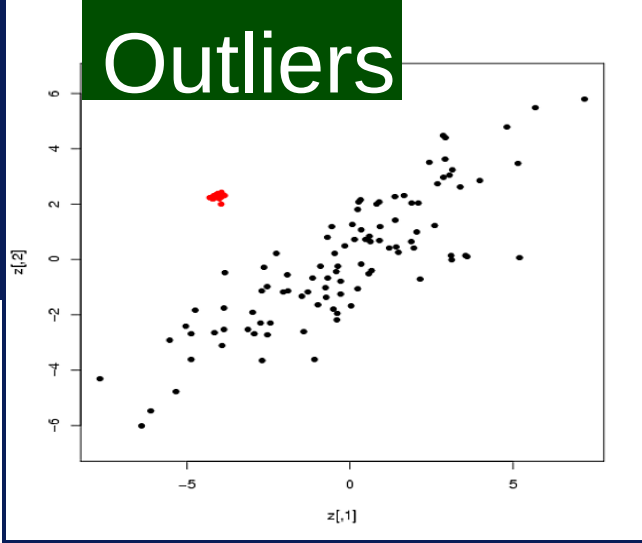
Histogram

Scatter Plot

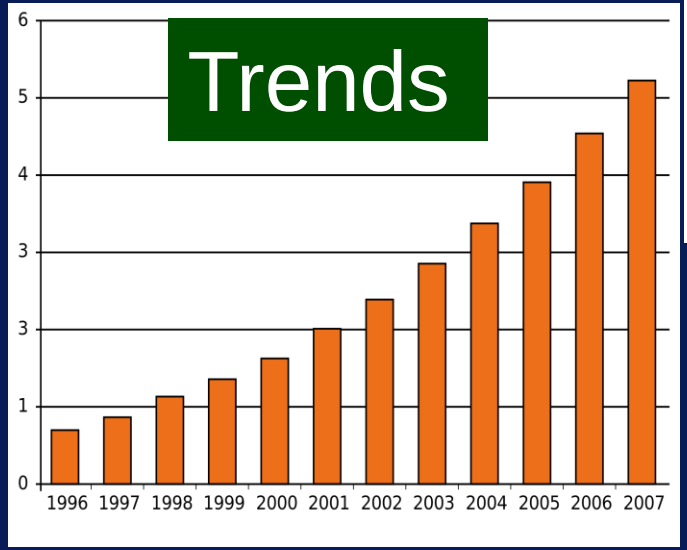


Some Things to Look For

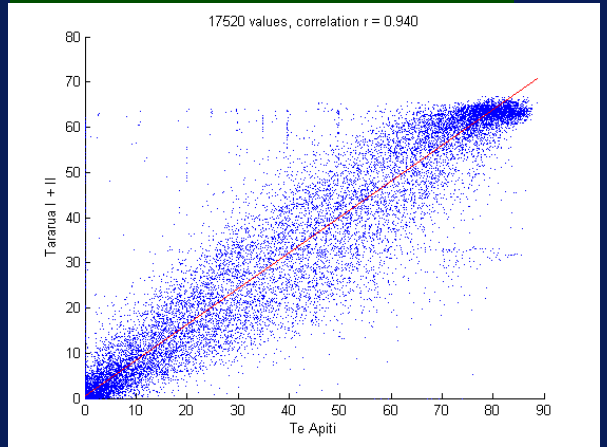
Outliers



Trends



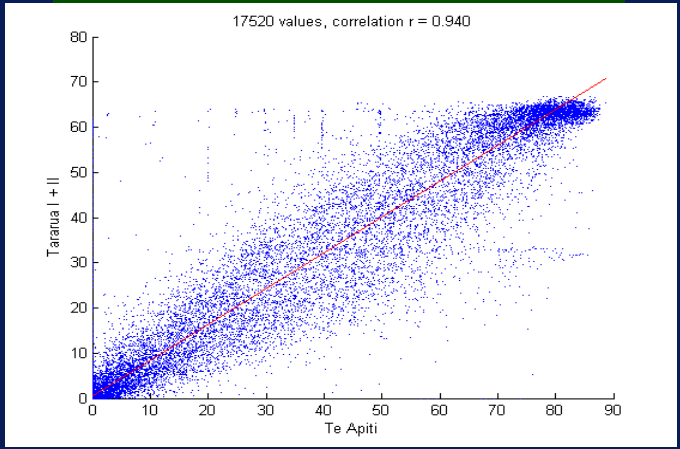
Correlations



Correlations

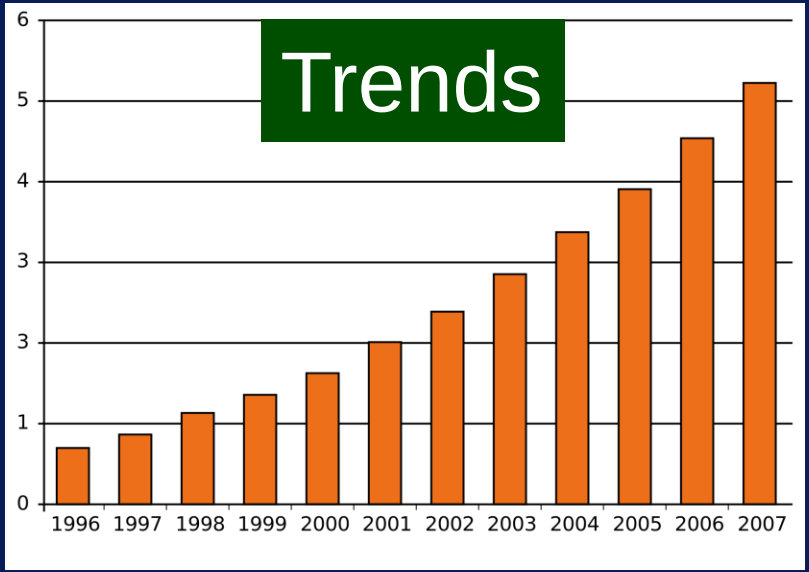
- Provide information about relationship between variables

Correlations



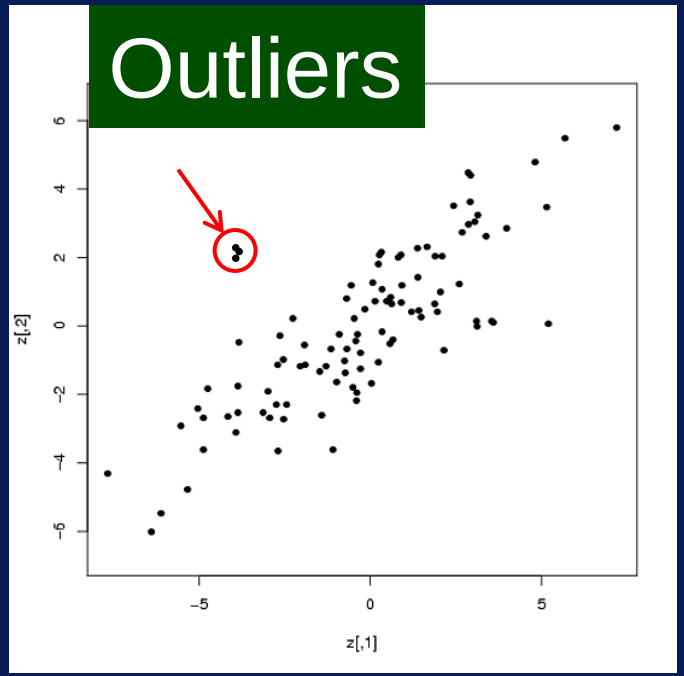
Trends

- Indicate general characteristics of data

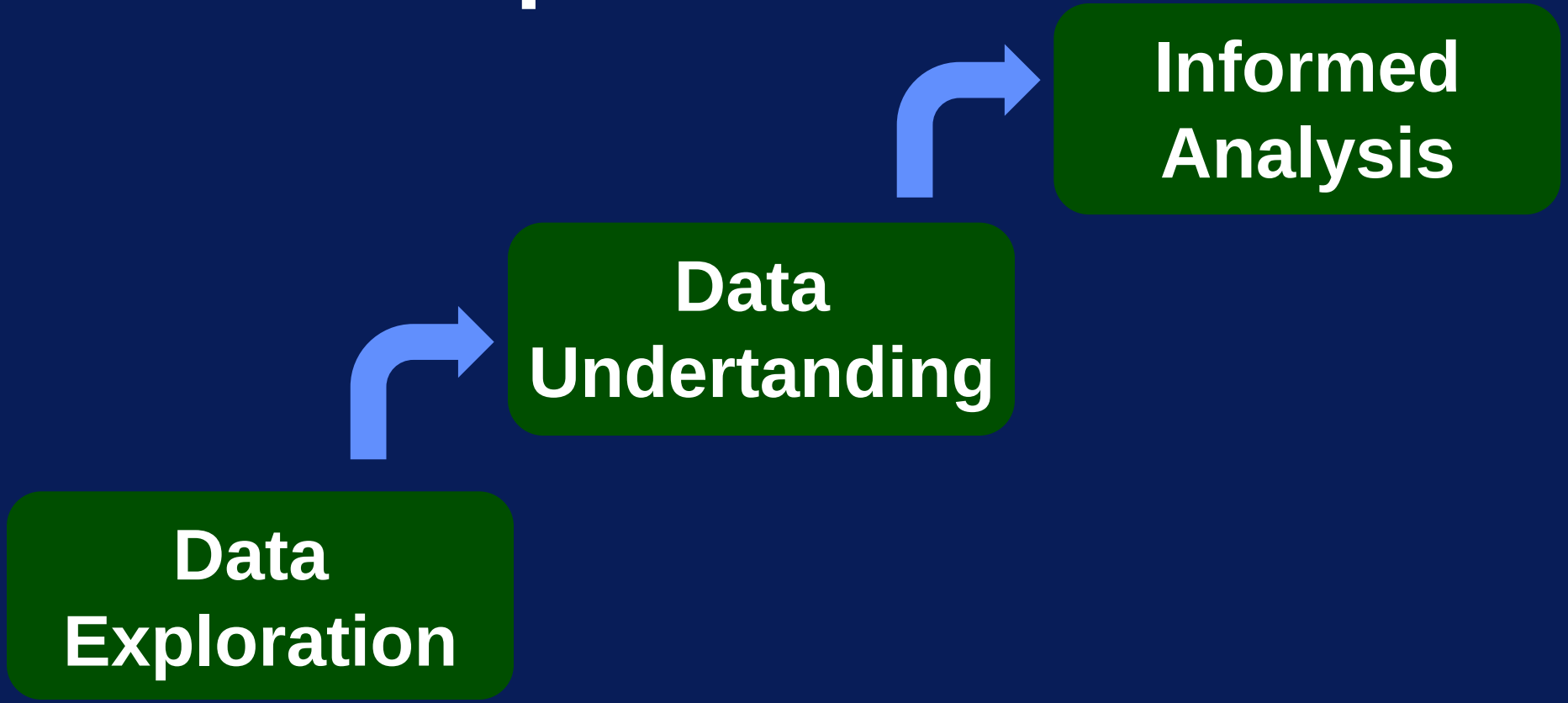


Outliers

- Indicate potential problems with data



Data Exploration



Exploring Data through Summary Statistics

After this video you will be able to..

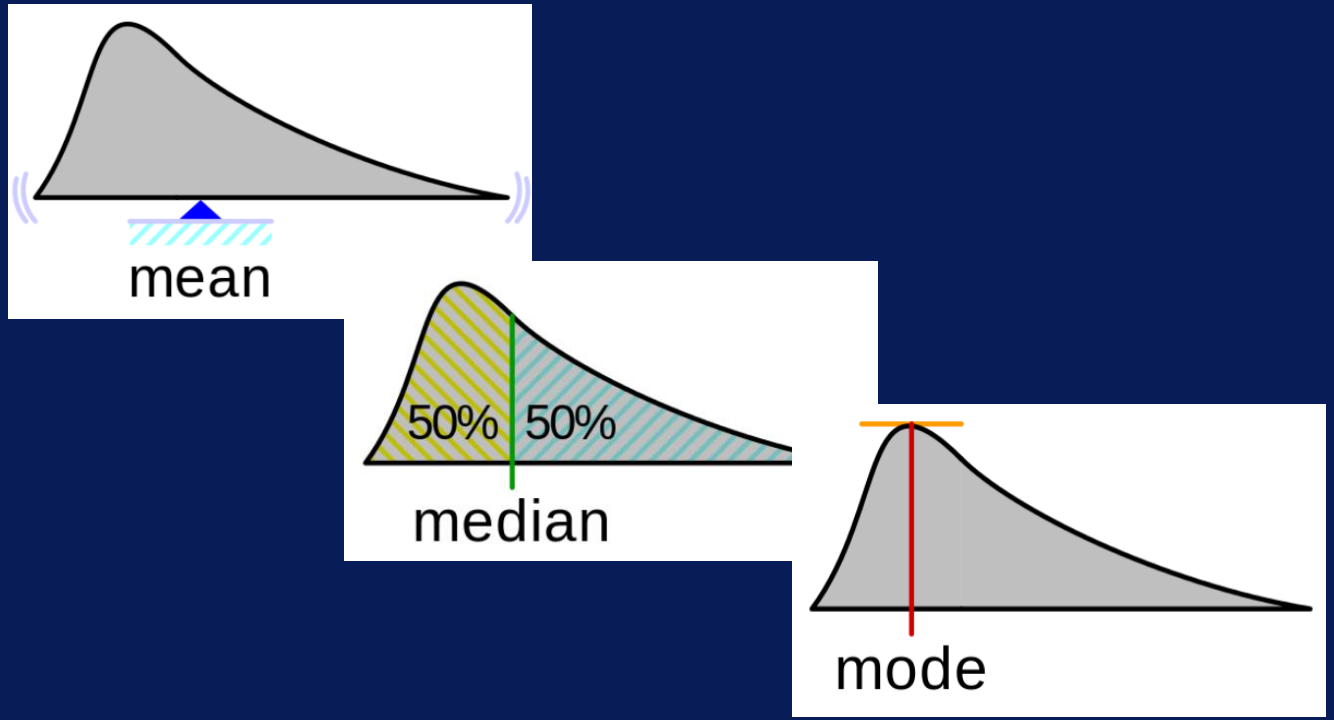
- Define what a summary statistic is
- List three common summary statistics
- Explain how summary statistics are useful in exploring data

What are summary statistics?

- **Quantities that summarize and describe a set of data values**
- **Measures of**
  - Location: mean, median
  - Spread: standard deviation
  - Shape: skewness

Measures of Location

Describe central or typical value of dataset



Measures of Location - Example

Age
35
42
78
22
56
50
42
78
21
87

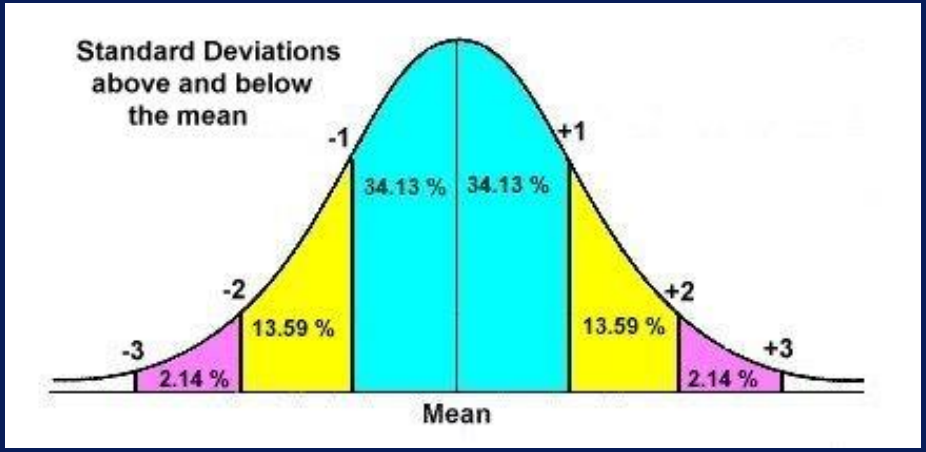
Age (sorted)
21
22
35
42
42
50
56
78
78
87

Mean = 51.1

Median = (42+50)/2 = 46

Mode = 42 & 78

Measures of Spread



Describe how dispersed or varied data is

minimum

maximum

standard deviation

variation

range

Measures of Spread – Example

Age
35
42
78
22
56
50
42
78
21
87

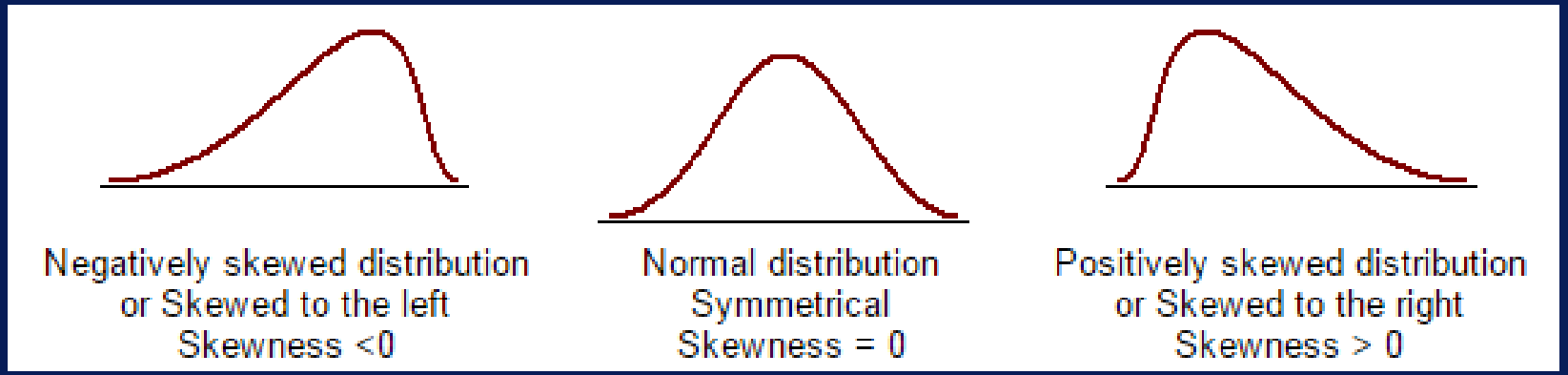
Age (sorted)
21
22
35
42
42
50
56
78
78
87

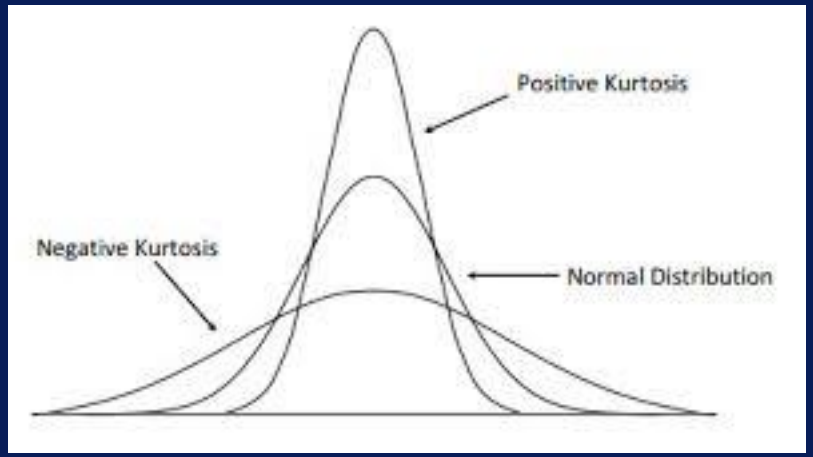
Range = 87 – 21 = 66

Variance = 548.767

Standard deviation = 23.426

Measures of Shape





skewness

kurtosis

Measures of Shape – Example

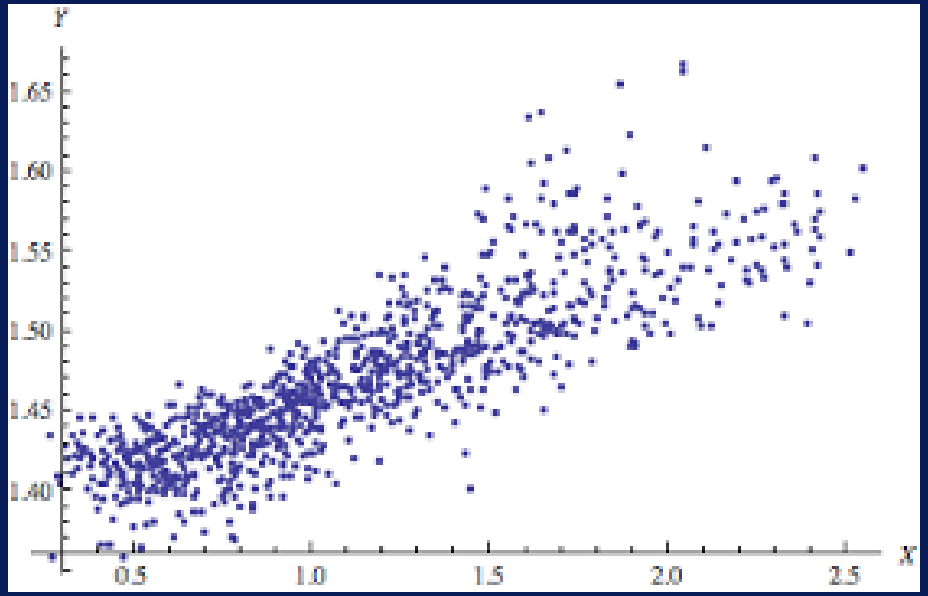
Age
35
42
78
22
56
50
42
78
21
87

Skewness = 0.2995

Kurtosis = -1.2028

Measures of Dependence

Describe relationship between variables



correlation

Measures of Dependence – Example

Height	Weight
180	68
153	70
204	84
133	44
208	81
142	53
122	40
168	50
175	64
200	72

Correlation = 0.8906

Statistics on Categorical Variables

Describe number of categories and frequency of each category

Color/Pet	White	Brown	Black	Orange	Total
Dog	34	44	32	0	110
Cat	25	2	43	0	70
Fish	1	0	5	33	39
Total	60	46	80	33	219

contingency table

Contingency Table - Example

Color/Pet	White	Brown	Black	Orange	Total
Dog	34	44	32	0	110
Cat	25	2	43	0	70
Fish	1	0	5	33	39
Total	60	46	80	33	219

Check Dimensions

- **Check number of rows and columns**

columns = # variables ?

ID	Date	MinTemp	MaxTemp	Rainfall
1	2010-06-17	56	75	0.1
2	2016-06-18	52	78	0.0
3	2010-06-19	50	78	0.0
4	2010-06-20	54	77	0.0

rows = # samples ?

Check Values

- **Check values in some samples**

Should temperature values in F or C?

Is this correct?

ID	Date	MinTemp	MaxTemp	Rainfall
1	2010-06-17	56	24	0.1
2	2016-06-18	52	26	3,678.9
3	2010-06-19	50	26	0.0
4	2010-06-20	54	25	0.0

Is this date or timestamp?

Check Missing Values

ID	Date	MinTemp	MaxTemp	Rainfall
1	2010-06-17	56	75	--
2	2016-06-18	52	78	--
3	2010-06-19	--	78	0.1
4	2010-06-20	54	77	--

Does feature have mostly missing values?

How many samples have missing values?

Summary Statistics

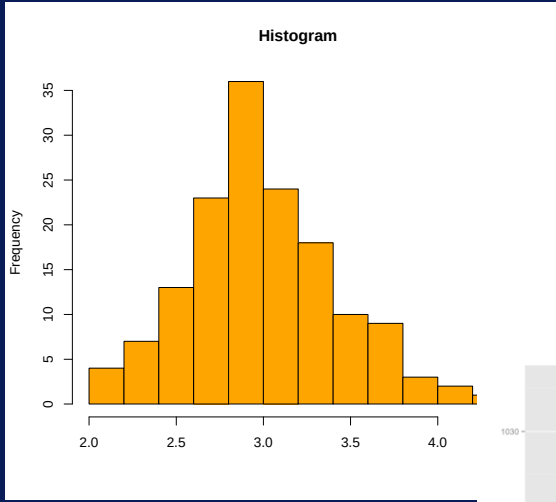
- **Measures of**
  - Location, spread, shape, dependence
- **Contingency table**
  - For categorical variables
- **Data validation**
  - Dimensions, missing values

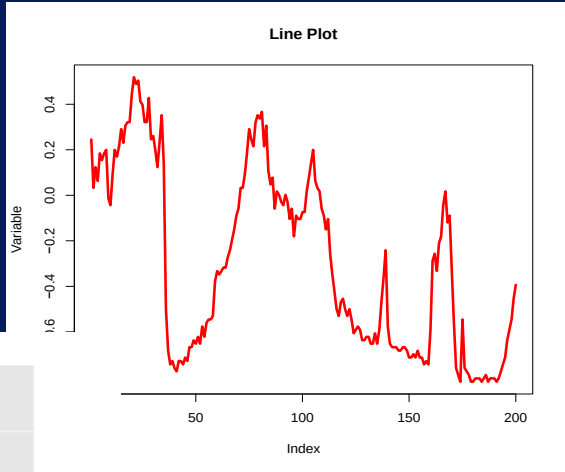
Exploring Data through Plots

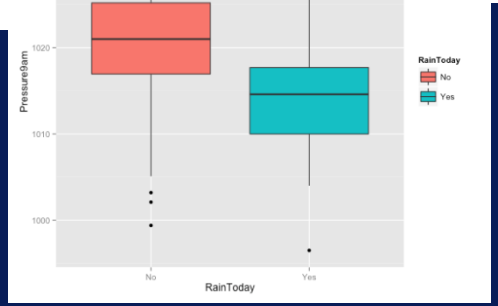
After this video you will be able to..

- Discuss how plots can be useful in exploring data
- Describe how you would use a scatter plot
- Summarize what a boxplot shows

Visualizing Data



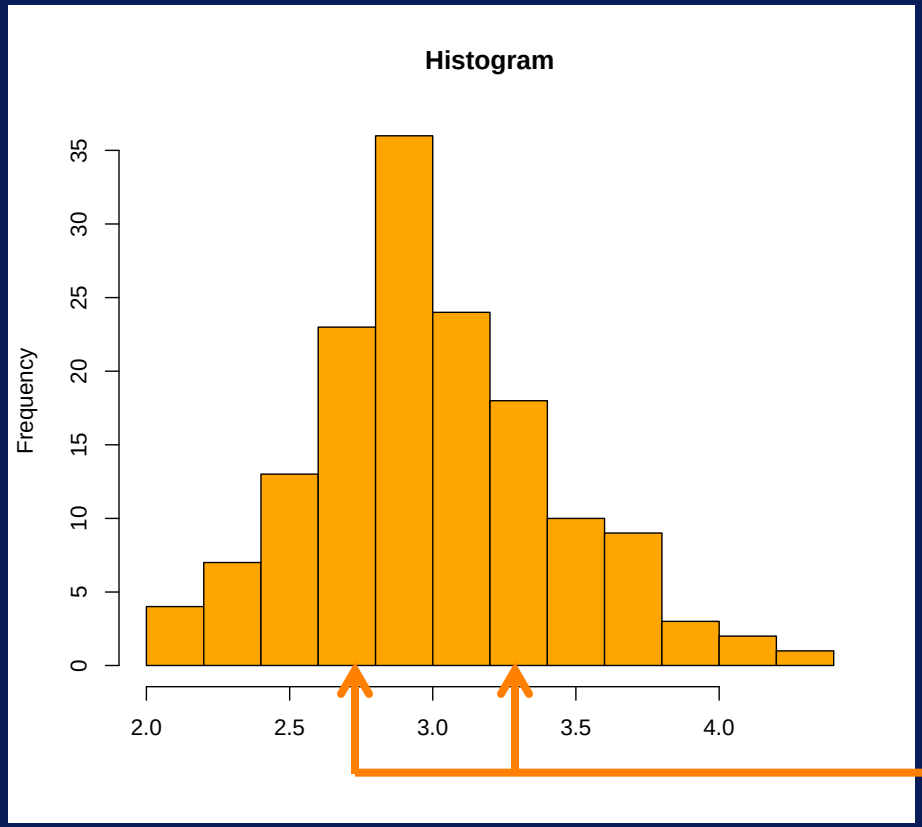




Types of Plots

- Histogram
- Line plot
- Scatter plot
- Bar plot
- Box plot
- others

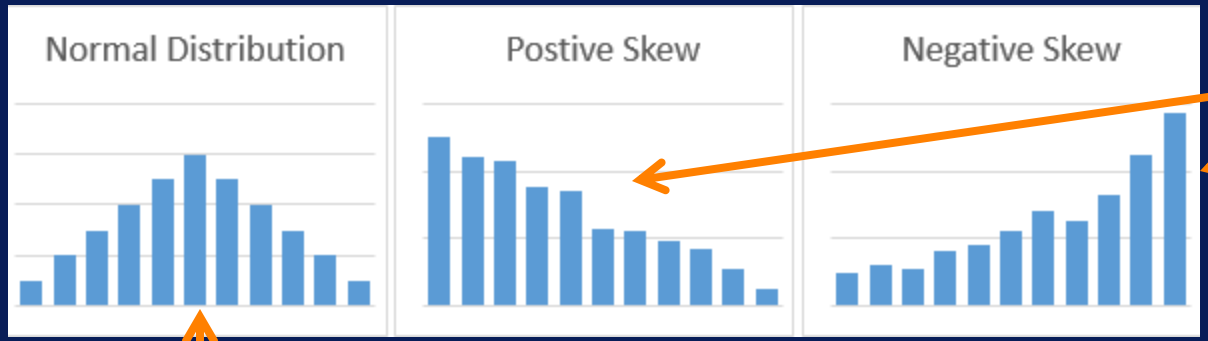
Histogram



- **Shows distribution of numeric variable**

Bins

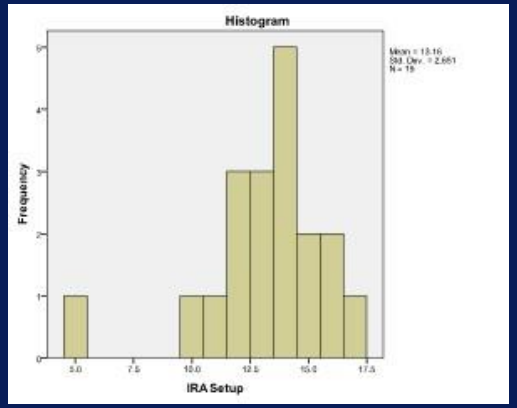
What a Histogram Shows



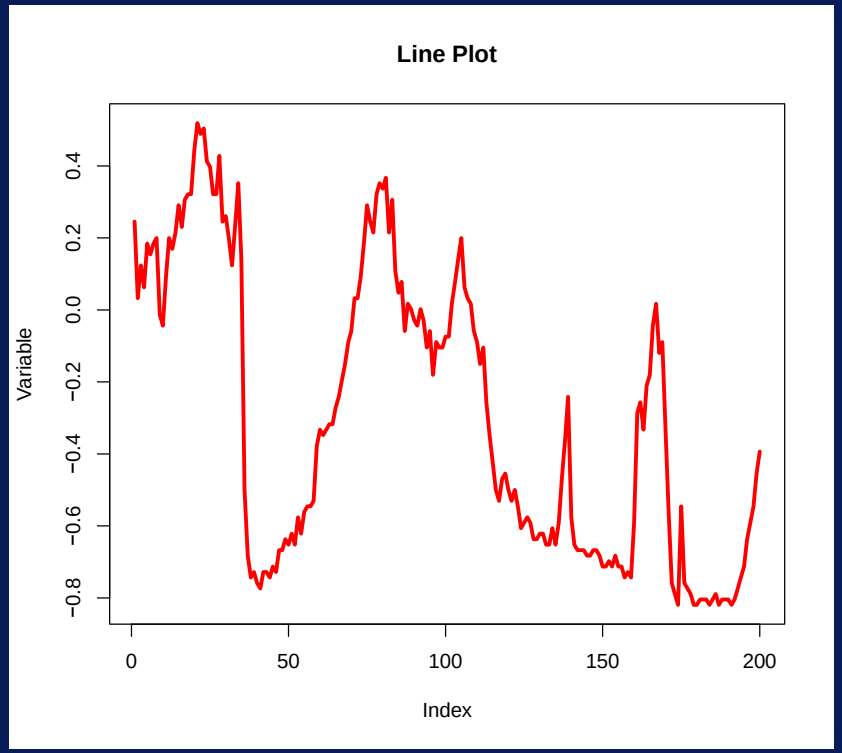
Skewness

Central Tendency

Outlier

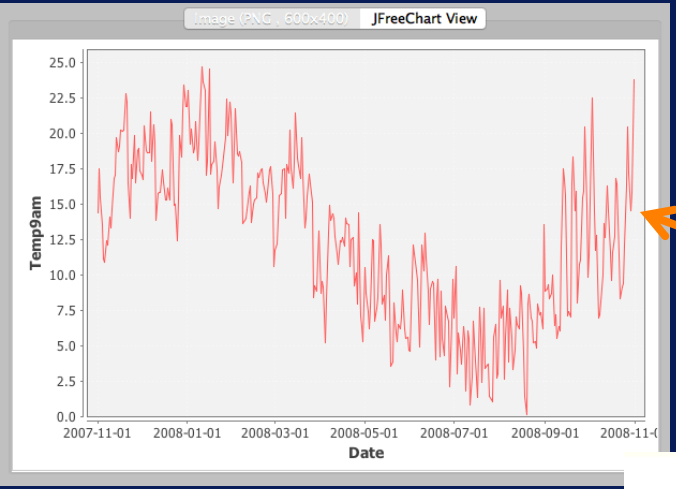


Line Plot



- **Shows change in data over time**

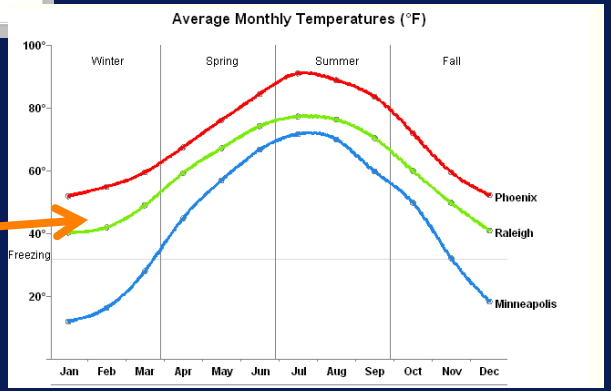
What a Line Plot Shows



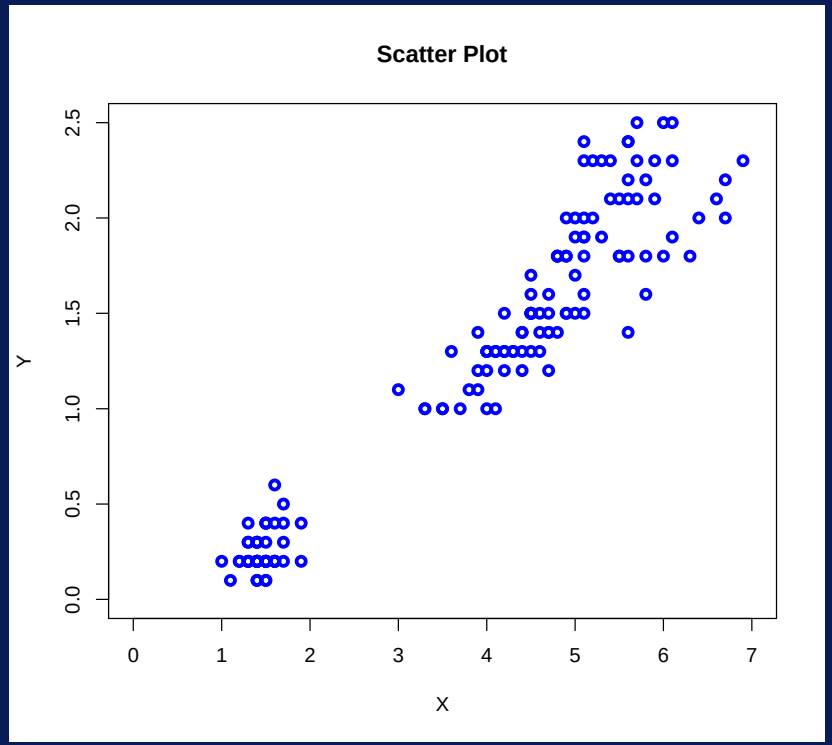
Trend

Cyclical pattern

Compare variables



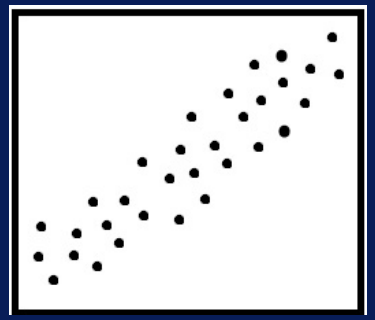
Scatter Plot

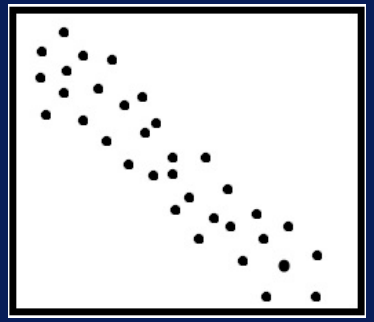


- Shows relationship between two variables

What a Scatter Plot Shows

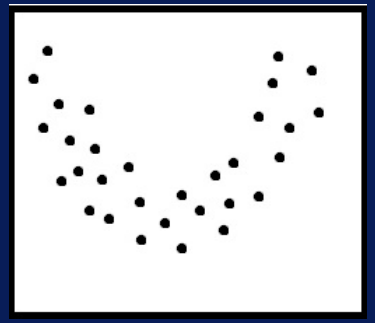
Positive Correlation

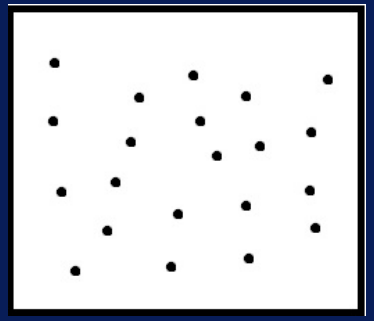




Negative Correlation

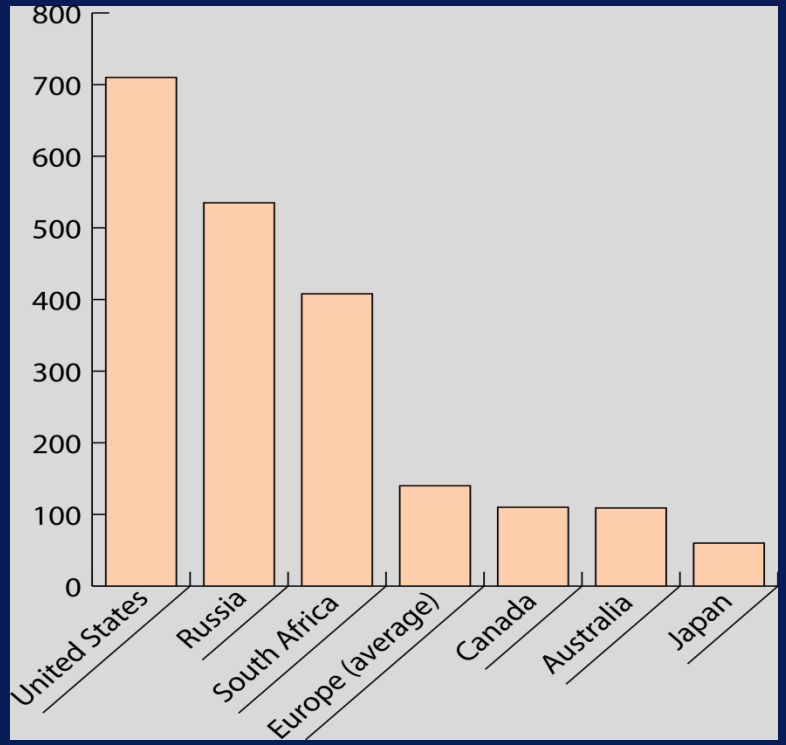
Non-Linear Correlation





No Correlation

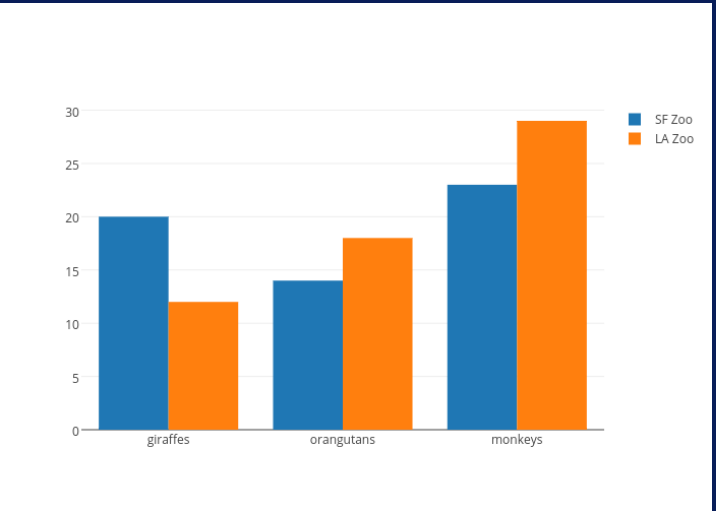
Bar Plot



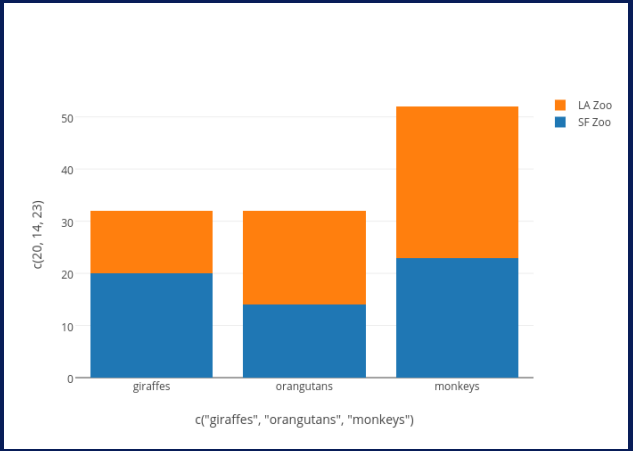
- **Shows distribution of categorical variable**

What a Bar Plot Shows

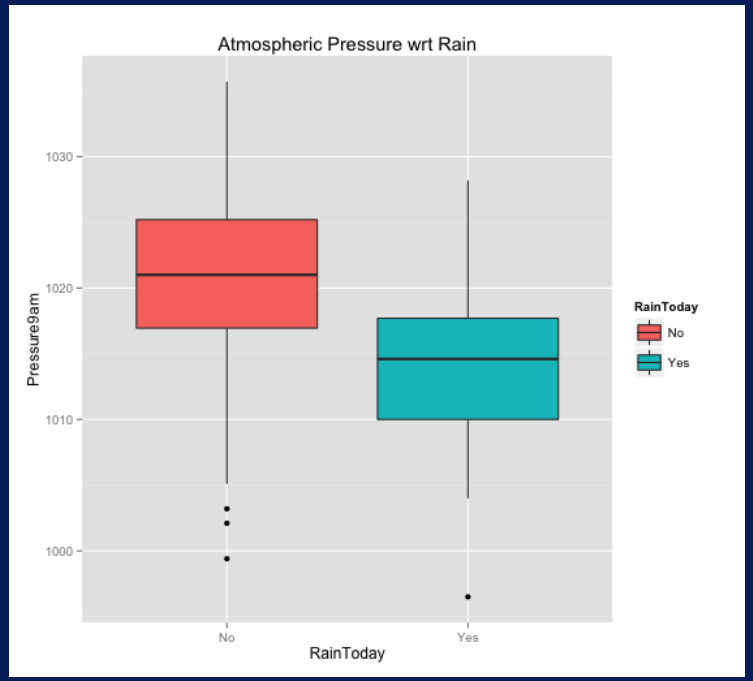
Grouped Bar Chart



Stacked Bar Chart

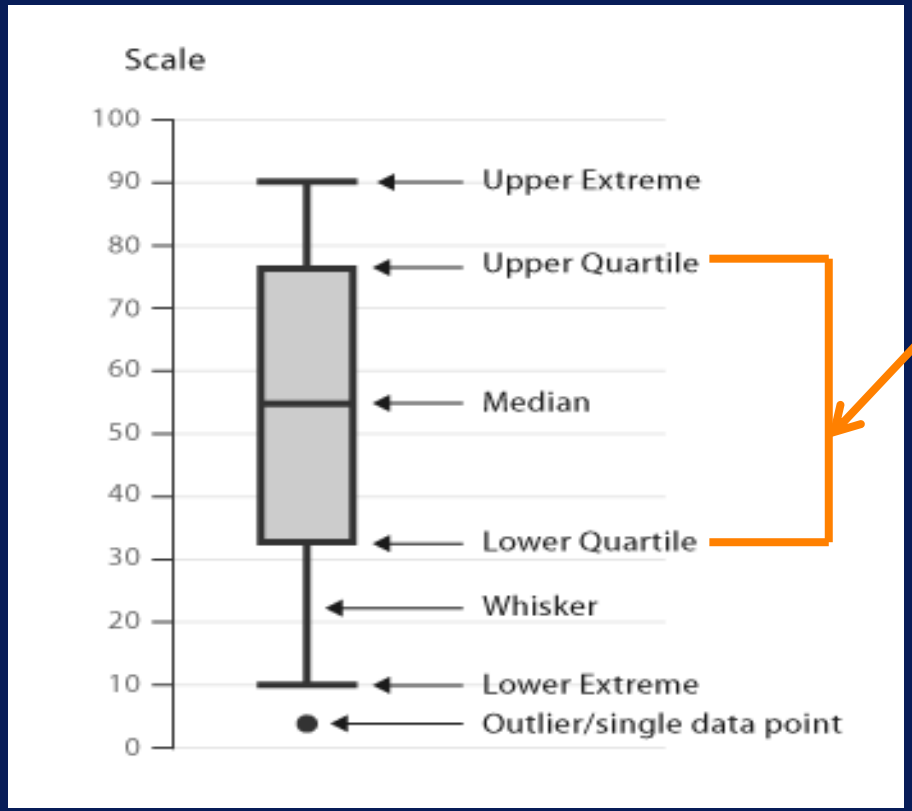


Box Plot



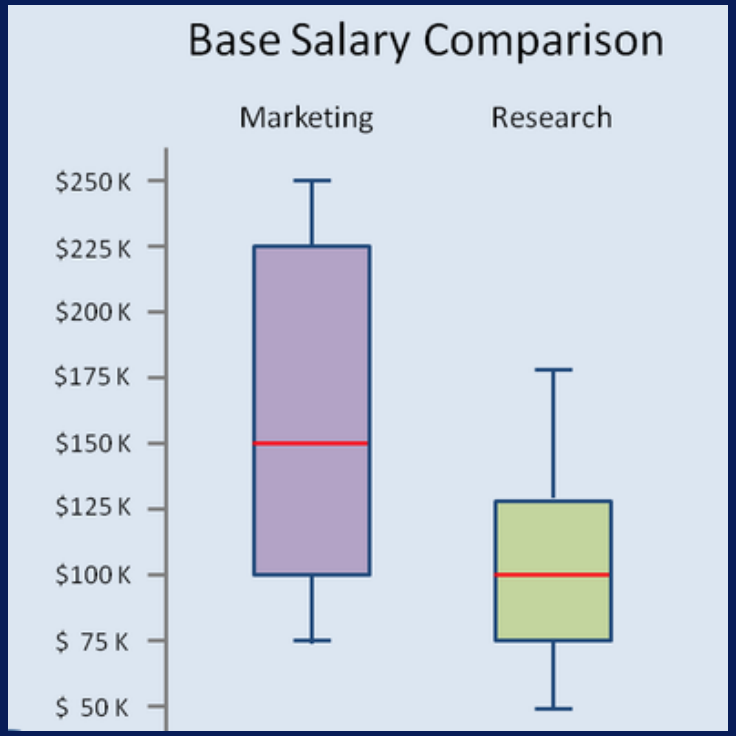
- **Compares distributions of variables**

Components of a Box Plot



The middle 50% of data are in this region

What a Box Plot Shows



What a Box Plot Shows

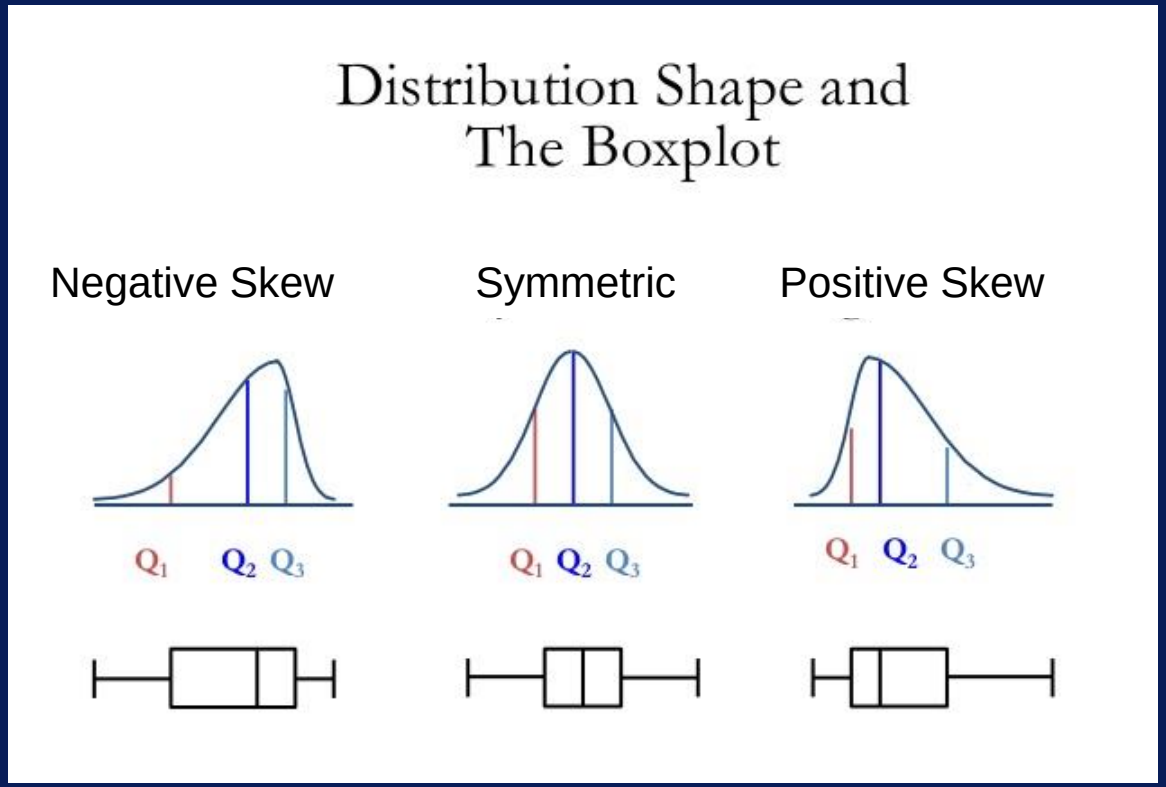


Image source: http://www.slideshare.net/mido02/chap-3gbu

Data Visualization

- Provides intuitive way to look at data
- Should be used with summary statistics for data exploration
- Are also useful for communicating results