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1 Early Autism Detection

1.1 Exploratory Data Analysis

1.1.1 Load The Autistic Spectrum Disorder Screening Data for Children Dataset

Description: This dataset contains information related to the screening of autistic spectrum disorder (ASD) in children. It includes various demographic and behavioral features that are used to identify potential ASD cases.

Attributes:

- **A1_Score:** Integer The answer code for the first question in the AQ-10-Child questionnaire (0 or 1).
- **A2_Score:** Integer The answer code for the second question in the AQ-10-Child questionnaire (0 or 1).
- **A3_Score:** Integer The answer code for the third question in the AQ-10-Child questionnaire (0 or 1).
- **A4_Score:** Integer The answer code for the fourth question in the AQ-10-Child questionnaire (0 or 1).
- **A5_Score:** Integer The answer code for the fifth question in the AQ-10-Child questionnaire (0 or 1).
- **A6_Score:** Integer The answer code for the sixth question in the AQ-10-Child questionnaire (0 or 1).
- **A7_Score:** Integer The answer code for the seventh question in the AQ-10-Child questionnaire (0 or 1).
- **A8_Score:** Integer The answer code for the eighth question in the AQ-10-Child questionnaire (0 or 1).
- **A9_Score:** Integer The answer code for the ninth question in the AQ-10-Child question-naire (0 or 1).
- **A10_Score:** Integer The answer code for the tenth question in the AQ-10-Child questionnaire (0 or 1).
- age: Integer Age of the individual in years.
- **gender:** Categorical Gender of the individual (Male or Female).

- ethnicity: Categorical List of common ethnicities in text format.
- **jaundice:** Binary Whether the individual was born with jaundice (yes or no).
- autism: Binary Whether any immediate family member has a pervasive developmental disorder (PDD) (yes or no).
- country_of_res: Categorical List of countries in text format.
- used_app_before: Binary Whether the user has used a screening app before (yes or no).
- result: Integer The final score obtained based on the scoring algorithm of the screening method used.
- age_desc: Categorical Description of the age category.
- **relation:** Categorical The person completing the test (Parent, self, caregiver, medical staff, clinician, etc.).
- class: Binary The target variable indicating whether the individual is classified as having ASD (yes or no).

Source: Thabtah, F. (2017). Autistic Spectrum Disorder Screening Data for Children [Dataset]. UCI Machine Learning Repository. Retrieved from https://doi.org/10.24432/C5659W.

```
[1]: from sklearn.preprocessing import LabelEncoder, MinMaxScaler from sklearn.impute import SimpleImputer from sklearn.decomposition import PCA from sklearn.cluster import KMeans from ucimlrepo import fetch_ucirepo from wordcloud import WordCloud import matplotlib.pyplot as plt import seaborn as sns import pandas as pd import numpy as np import squarify
```

```
[2]: autistic_spectrum_disorder_screening_data_for_children = fetch_ucirepo( id=419 )
X = autistic_spectrum_disorder_screening_data_for_children.data.features
y = autistic_spectrum_disorder_screening_data_for_children.data.targets
df_original = pd.concat( [X, y], axis=1 )
df = df_original.copy()
```

1.2 Dataset Inspection

The dataset has 292 records and 21 features (variables).

```
[3]: feature_names = df.columns
print( feature_names )
print( df.shape )
```

1.2.1 Data Types and Data Head and Tail

```
[4]: print( df.dtypes )
    A1_Score
                          int64
    A2_Score
                          int64
    A3_Score
                          int64
    A4_Score
                          int64
    A5_Score
                          int64
    A6_Score
                          int64
    A7_Score
                          int64
    A8_Score
                          int64
    A9_Score
                          int64
    A10_Score
                          int64
                        float64
    age
    gender
                         object
    ethnicity
                         object
    jaundice
                         object
    autism
                         object
    country_of_res
                         object
    used_app_before
                         object
    result
                          int64
    age_desc
                         object
    relation
                         object
    class
                         object
    dtype: object
```

[5]: df.head()

[5]:	A1_Score	A2_Score	A3_Score	A4_	Score	A5_Score	A6_Score	A7_Score	\
0	1	1	0		0	1	1	0	
1	1	1	0		0	1	1	0	
2	1	1	0		0	0	1	1	
3	0	1	0		0	1	1	0	
4	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	
	A8_Score	A9_Score	A10_Score		gender	?	ethnicity	jaundice	\
0	A8_Score	A9_Score	A10_Score	•••	gender		ethnicity Others	jaundice no	\
0 1	A8_Score 1 1	A9_Score 0 0			Ū	n	•	_	\
0 1 2	A8_Score 1 1 1	A9_Score 0 0 0	0		n	n 'Middle	Others	no	\
0 1 2 3	A8_Score 1 1 1 0	A9_Score 0 0 0	0	•••	n	n 'Middle	Others Eastern '	no no	\

```
autism
            country_of_res used_app_before result
                                                            age_desc relation class
0
                     Jordan
                                                    5
                                                        '4-11 years'
                                                                        Parent
                                                                                   NO
      no
1
      no
                     Jordan
                                           no
                                                    5
                                                       '4-11 years'
                                                                        Parent
                                                                                   NO
2
                                                       '4-11 years'
                     Jordan
                                                    5
                                                                           NaN
                                                                                   NO
      no
                                          yes
3
                     Jordan
                                                    4
                                                        '4-11 years'
                                                                           NaN
                                                                                   NO
      nο
                                           no
                                                       '4-11 years'
           'United States'
                                                   10
                                                                        Parent
                                                                                  YES
      no
                                           no
```

[5 rows x 21 columns]

```
[6]: df.tail()
[6]:
                      A2_Score
                                  A3_Score A4_Score
                                                        A5_Score
                                                                    A6_Score
                                                                               A7 Score
           A1_Score
     287
                   1
                              1
                                          1
                                                                 1
                                                     1
     288
                   1
                              0
                                          0
                                                     0
                                                                 1
                                                                            0
                                                                                       1
     289
                   1
                              0
                                          1
                                                     1
                                                                 1
                                                                            1
                                                                                       1
     290
                   1
                              1
                                          1
                                                     0
                                                                 1
                                                                            1
                                                                                       1
     291
                   0
                              0
                                          1
                                                     0
                                                                 1
                                                                            0
                                                                                       1
                      A9_Score
                                  A10_Score
                                                                 ethnicity jaundice
           A8_Score
                                              ... gender
     287
                   1
                              1
                                           1
                                                       f
                                                           White-European
                                                                                  yes
     288
                   0
                              0
                                           1
                                                       f
                                                           White-European
                                                                                  yes
     289
                   0
                              0
                                           1
                                                       m
                                                                    Latino
                                                                                   no
     290
                   1
                              1
                                           1
                                                            'South Asian'
                                                       m
                                                                                   no
     291
                   0
                              0
                                           0
                                                       f
                                                            'South Asian'
                                                                                   no
          autism
                     country_of_res used_app_before result
                                                                      age_desc relation
     287
             yes
                   'United Kingdom'
                                                     no
                                                             10
                                                                  '4-11 years'
                                                                                   Parent
     288
                           Australia
                                                              4
                                                                  '4-11 years'
                                                                                   Parent
             yes
                                                     no
     289
                              Brazil
                                                              7
                                                                  '4-11 years'
                                                                                   Parent
              no
                                                     no
     290
                                                                  '4-11 years'
              no
                               India
                                                     no
                                                              9
                                                                                   Parent
     291
                                                                  '4-11 years'
                               India
                                                              3
                                                                                   Parent
              no
                                                     no
          class
     287
            YES
     288
             NO
     289
            YES
     290
            YES
     291
             NO
```

[5 rows x 21 columns]

1.2.2 Missing Values

The columns with missing values are **ethnicity** with **43** missing values, **relation** with **43** missing values, and **age** with **4** missing values.

```
[7]: df.isna().sum()
```

```
[7]: A1_Score
                           0
     A2_Score
                            0
     A3_Score
                            0
     A4_Score
                            0
                            0
     A5 Score
     A6_Score
                            0
     A7 Score
                            0
     A8_Score
                            0
                            0
     A9_Score
     A10_Score
                            0
                            4
     age
                           0
     gender
     ethnicity
                          43
                            0
     jaundice
     autism
                            0
     country_of_res
                            0
     used_app_before
                            0
     result
                            0
     age_desc
                           0
     relation
                          43
     class
                           0
     dtype: int64
```

1.2.3 Duplicates

There are 2 duplicates but they have different values in different columns so I'll keep them.

```
[8]: duplicates = df.duplicated()
     print( df[duplicates] )
                    A2_Score
                              A3_Score
                                         A4_Score
                                                    A5_Score
                                                               A6 Score
                                                                           A7 Score
    84
                0
                           0
                                      1
                                                 0
                                                            1
                                                                       1
                                                                                  1
                0
                           0
                                      1
                                                            1
    93
                                                                       1
                                                                                  1
         A8_Score
                    A9_Score
                              A10_Score
                                              gender ethnicity jaundice autism
                0
    84
                           1
                                        1
                                                    m
                                                          Asian
                                                                       no
                                                                               no
    93
                1
                           1
                                        1
                                                    m
                                                          Asian
                                                                       no
                                                                               no
        country_of_res used_app_before result
                                                       age_desc relation class
                  India
    84
                                      no
                                               6
                                                   '4-11 years'
                                                                   Parent
                                                                              NO
    93
                  India
                                                   '4-11 years'
                                                                   Parent
                                                                             YES
                                      no
```

[2 rows x 21 columns]

1.2.4 Outliers

There's 1 outlier in the result column and this is because the result column is obtained by adding the first ten columns. The value for these first ten columns is 0 and therefore the value for the result column is 0. I'll ignore this outlier since it is a valid record.

```
[9]: def detect_outliers_iqr( df, column ):
         Q1 = df[column].quantile(0.25)
         Q3 = df[column].quantile(0.75)
         IQR = Q3 - Q1
         lower_bound = Q1 - 1.5 * IQR
         upper_bound = Q3 + 1.5 * IQR
         outliers = df[( df[column] < lower_bound ) | ( df[column] > upper_bound )]
         return outliers
     numerical features = df.select dtypes(include=['number']).columns
     for feature in numerical_features:
         outliers = detect_outliers_iqr( df, feature )
         print( f"Number of outliers in {feature}: {len( outliers )}" )
         if not outliers.empty:
             print( outliers )
     Number of outliers in A1_Score: 0
     Number of outliers in A2_Score: 0
     Number of outliers in A3_Score: 0
     Number of outliers in A4_Score: 0
     Number of outliers in A5_Score: 0
     Number of outliers in A6_Score: 0
     Number of outliers in A7_Score: 0
     Number of outliers in A8_Score: 0
     Number of outliers in A9_Score: 0
     Number of outliers in A10_Score: 0
     Number of outliers in age: 0
     Number of outliers in result: 1
          A1_Score A2_Score A3_Score A4_Score A5_Score A6_Score A7_Score \
     137
                 0
                          0
                                    0
                                                         0
                                               0
          A8_Score A9_Score A10_Score ... gender ethnicity jaundice autism \
     137
                                      0 ...
                                                 f Hispanic
           country_of_res used_app_before result
                                                     age_desc relation class
     137 'United States'
                                               0 '4-11 years' Parent
                                       no
     [1 rows x 21 columns]
[10]: for feature in numerical_features:
         outliers = detect_outliers_iqr( df, feature )
         print( f"Number of outliers in {feature}: {len( outliers )}" )
         if not outliers.empty:
             print( f"Outliers in {feature}:" )
```

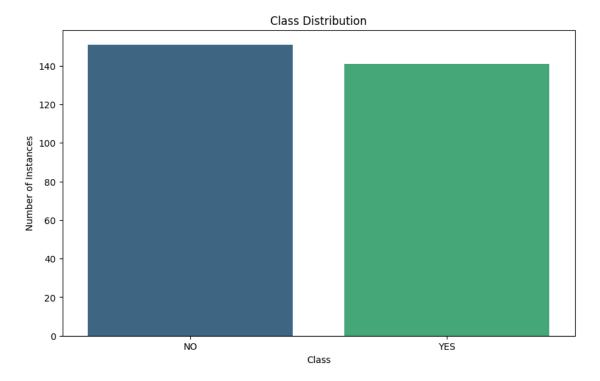
```
print( outliers[['result']] )
Number of outliers in A1_Score: 0
Number of outliers in A2_Score: 0
Number of outliers in A3_Score: 0
Number of outliers in A4_Score: 0
Number of outliers in A5_Score: 0
Number of outliers in A6_Score: 0
Number of outliers in A7_Score: 0
Number of outliers in A8_Score: 0
Number of outliers in A9_Score: 0
Number of outliers in A10_Score: 0
Number of outliers in age: 0
Number of outliers in result: 1
Outliers in result:
    result
137
```

1.2.5 Data Imbalance

The dataset is relatively balanced with a slight majority of NO instances. No concern for data imbalance.

```
[11]: class_distribution = df['class'].value_counts()
      print( "Class distribution:" )
      print( class_distribution )
      class_percentage = df['class'].value_counts( normalize = True ) * 100
      print( "\nClass percentage distribution:" )
      for index, value in class_percentage.items():
          print( f"{index}: {value:.2f}%" )
     Class distribution:
     class
     NO
            151
            141
     YES
     Name: count, dtype: int64
     Class percentage distribution:
     NO: 51.71%
     YES: 48.29%
[12]: class_distribution_df = class_distribution.reset_index()
      class_distribution_df.columns = ['class', 'count']
      plt.figure( figsize = ( 10, 6 ) )
```

```
sns.barplot( data = class_distribution_df, x = 'class', y = 'count', palette = 'viridis', hue = 'class', dodge = False )
plt.title( 'Class Distribution')
plt.xlabel( 'Class')
plt.ylabel( 'Number of Instances')
plt.legend( [],[], frameon = False )
plt.show()
```



1.3 Data Cleaning

1.3.1 Imputing missing values for "ethnicity" and "relation" with "Unknown"

```
[13]: df.fillna( {"ethnicity": "Unknown"}, inplace = True )
df.fillna( {"relation": "Unknown"}, inplace = True )
```

1.3.2 Deleting result and age_desc column

```
[14]: df = df.drop( columns = ["result", "age_desc"] )
```

1.3.3 Imputing missing values for age by median

```
[15]: simple_imputer = SimpleImputer( strategy = 'median' )
df['age'] = simple_imputer.fit_transform( df[['age']] )
```

1.3.4 Converting categorical columns to category data type

```
[16]: categorical_columns = ['gender', 'ethnicity', 'jaundice', 'autism', 

\( \times' \) country_of_res', 'used_app_before', 'relation', 'class']

for col in categorical_columns:

df[col] = df[col].astype( 'category' )
```

1.4 Data Preprocessing

1.4.1 Unique Values for Categorical columns

```
[17]: categorical columns = df.select dtypes(include = ['object', 'category']).
      ⇔columns
      for col in categorical_columns:
          unique_values = df[col].unique()
          print( f"Unique values in '{col}': {unique_values}" )
     Unique values in 'gender': ['m', 'f']
     Categories (2, object): ['f', 'm']
     Unique values in 'ethnicity': ['Others', ''Middle Eastern '', 'Unknown', 'White-
     European', 'Black', ..., 'Asian', 'Pasifika', 'Hispanic', 'Turkish', 'Latino']
     Length: 11
     Categories (11, object): [''Middle Eastern '', ''South Asian'', 'Asian',
     'Black', ..., 'Pasifika', 'Turkish', 'Unknown', 'White-European']
     Unique values in 'jaundice': ['no', 'yes']
     Categories (2, object): ['no', 'yes']
     Unique values in 'autism': ['no', 'yes']
     Categories (2, object): ['no', 'yes']
     Unique values in 'country_of_res': ['Jordan', ''United States'', 'Egypt',
     ''United Kingdom'', 'Bahrain', ..., 'Mexico', ''Isle of Man'', 'Libya', 'Ghana',
     'Bhutan']
     Length: 52
     Categories (52, object): [''Costa Rica'', ''Isle of Man'', ''New Zealand'',
     ''Saudi Arabia'', ..., 'Russia', 'Sweden', 'Syria', 'Turkey']
     Unique values in 'used_app_before': ['no', 'yes']
     Categories (2, object): ['no', 'yes']
     Unique values in 'relation': ['Parent', 'Unknown', 'Self', 'Relative', ''Health
     care professional'', 'self']
     Categories (6, object): [''Health care professional'', 'Parent', 'Relative',
     'Self', 'Unknown', 'self']
     Unique values in 'class': ['NO', 'YES']
     Categories (2, object): ['NO', 'YES']
```

1.4.2 Clean the ethnicity, country_of_res column, and relation

```
[18]: def clean_columns( df, columns ):
    for col in columns:
        df[col] = df[col].str.strip()
        df[col] = df[col].str.replace(r'[^a-zA-Z\s-]', '', regex=True)
    return df

columns_to_clean = ['ethnicity', 'country_of_res', 'relation']
    df = clean_columns( df, columns_to_clean )

df['relation'] = df['relation'].replace( {'self': 'Self', 'Self': 'Self'} )
```

1.4.3 Label Encoding and One-hot encoding Categorical Columns

1.4.4 MinMax Scaling

```
[20]: numerical_columns = df.select_dtypes( include = ['number'] ).columns
    scaler = MinMaxScaler()
    df[numerical_columns] = scaler.fit_transform( df[numerical_columns] )
```

1.4.5 Saving dataframe to CSV for future analysis

```
[21]: df.to_csv( 'early_autism.csv', index = False )
```

1.5 Data Analysis And Visualization

1.5.1 Summary Statistics

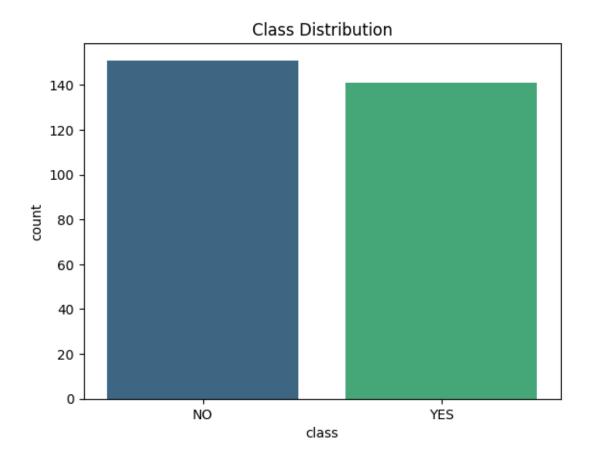
```
[22]: print( df.describe() )
              A1_Score
                          A2_Score
                                      A3_Score
                                                  A4_Score
                                                              A5_Score
                                                                          A6_Score
            292.000000 292.000000 292.000000 292.000000 292.000000 292.000000
     count
              0.633562
                          0.534247
                                      0.743151
                                                  0.551370
                                                              0.743151
                                                                          0.712329
     mean
     std
              0.482658
                          0.499682
                                      0.437646
                                                  0.498208
                                                              0.437646
                                                                          0.453454
     min
              0.000000
                          0.000000
                                      0.000000
                                                  0.000000
                                                              0.000000
                                                                          0.000000
```

25%	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.00000	0.000000	0.000000	
50%	1.000000	1.000000	1.000000	1.00000	1.000000	1.000000	
75%	1.000000	1.000000	1.000000	1.00000	1.000000	1.000000	
max	1.000000	1.000000	1.000000	1.00000	1.000000	1.000000	
	A7_Score	A8_Score	A9_Score	A10_Scor	re age	gender	\
count	292.000000	292.000000	292.000000	292.00000	00 292.000000	292.000000	
mean	0.606164	0.496575	0.493151	0.72602	0.335616	0.712329	
std	0.489438	0.500847	0.500811	0.44676	0.335643	0.453454	
min	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.00000	0.000000	0.000000	
25%	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.00000	0.000000	0.000000	
50%	1.000000	0.000000	0.000000	1.00000	0.285714	1.000000	
75%	1.000000	1.000000	1.000000	1.00000	0.571429	1.000000	
max	1.000000	1.000000	1.000000	1.00000	1.000000	1.000000	
	jaundice	autism	used_app_be	fore	class		
count	292.000000	292.000000	292.00	0000 292.	.000000		
mean	0.273973	0.167808	0.03	7671 0.	. 482877		
std	0.446761	0.374337	0.19	0727 0.	. 500565		
min	0.000000	0.000000	0.00	0000 0.	.000000		
25%	0.000000	0.000000	0.00	0000 0.	.000000		
50%	0.000000	0.000000	0.00	0000 0.	.000000		
75%	1.000000	0.000000	0.00	0000 1.	.000000		
max	1.000000	1.000000	1.00	0000 1.	.000000		

1.5.2 Distribution of the target variable

The ${f NO}$ class has a bit higher count than the ${f YES}$ class but ultimately the two are relatively balanced.

```
[23]: sns.countplot( x = 'class', data = df_original, hue = 'class', palette = control of the countplot of t
```

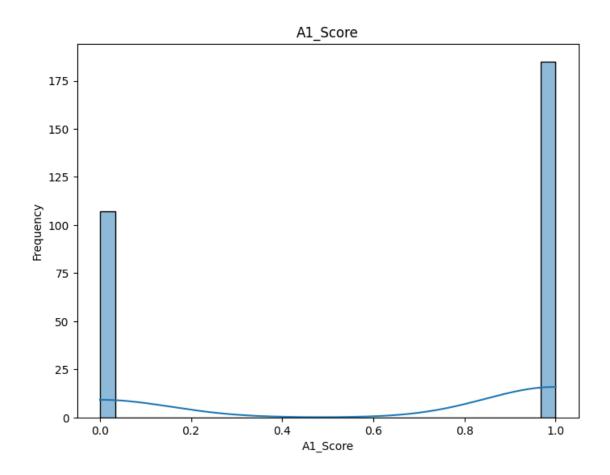


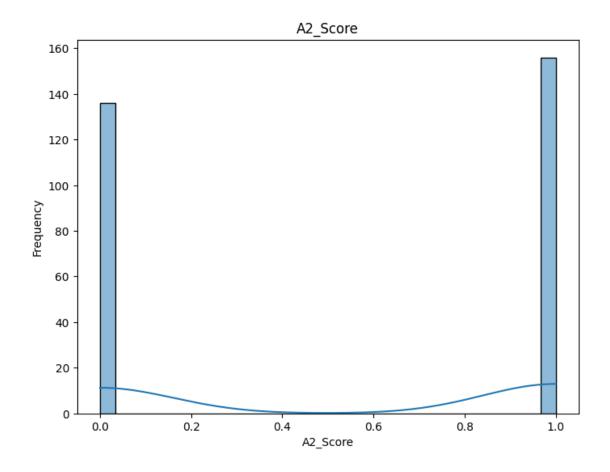
1.5.3 Distibution for Numerical Features

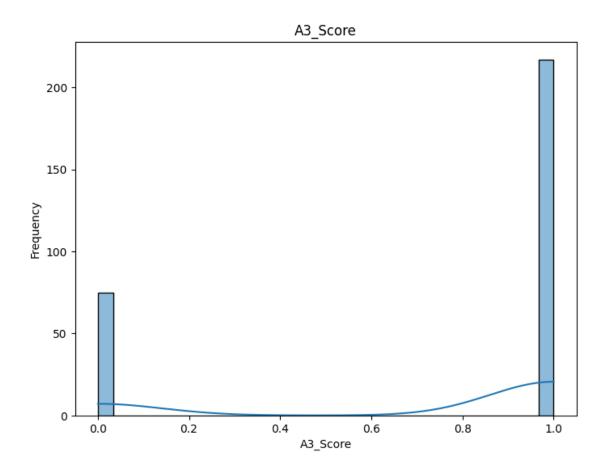
age has right skewed distribution whereas result has left skewed distribution.

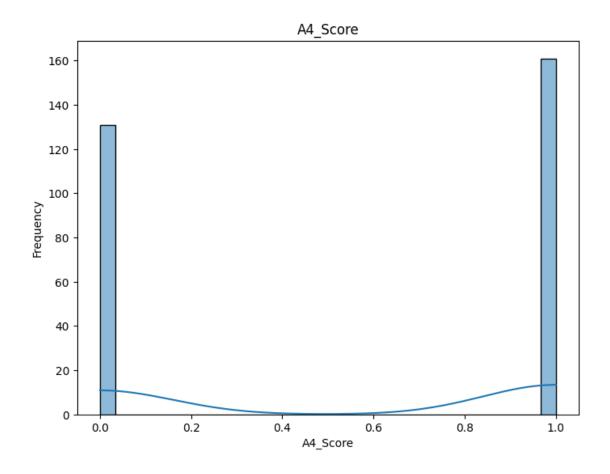
```
[24]: numerical_columns = df_original.select_dtypes( include = ['number']).columns

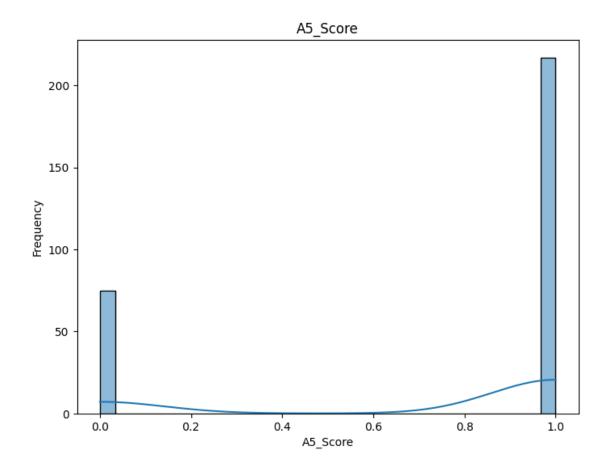
for col in numerical_columns:
    plt.figure( figsize = (8, 6))
    sns.histplot( df_original[col], kde = True, bins = 30 )
    plt.title( f'{col}' )
    plt.xlabel( col )
    plt.ylabel( 'Frequency' )
    plt.show()
```

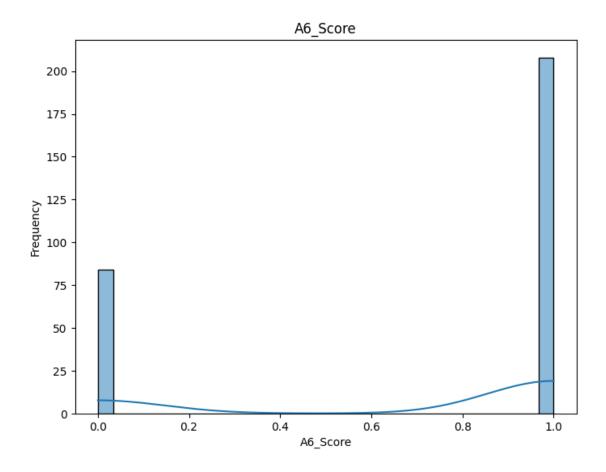


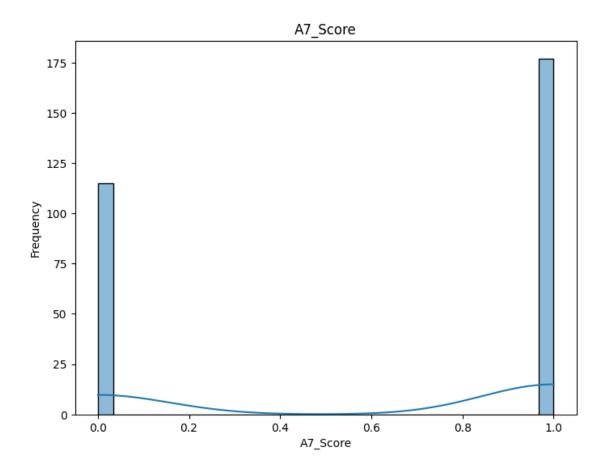


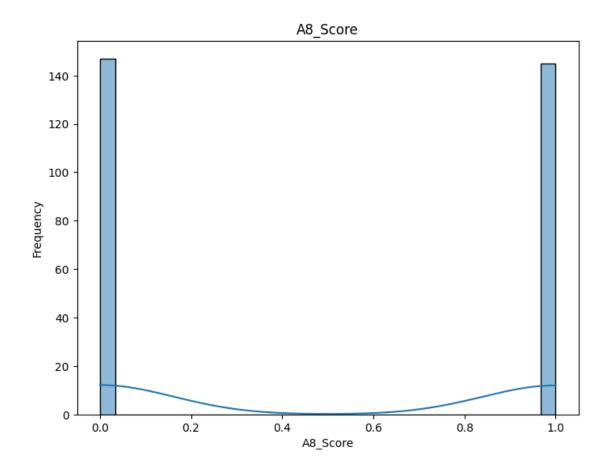


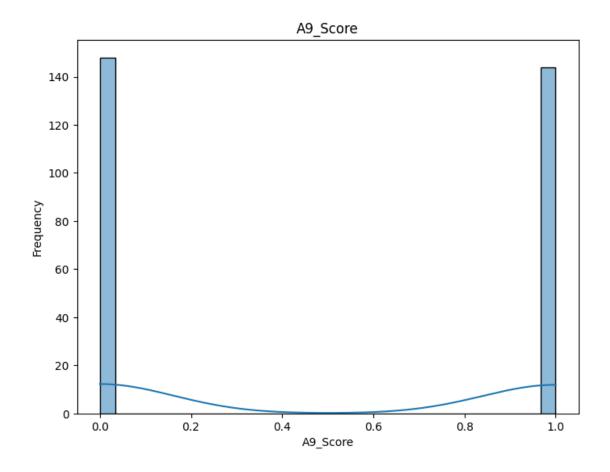


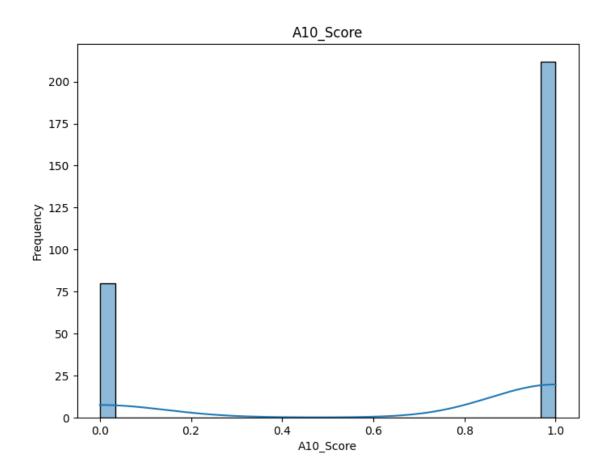


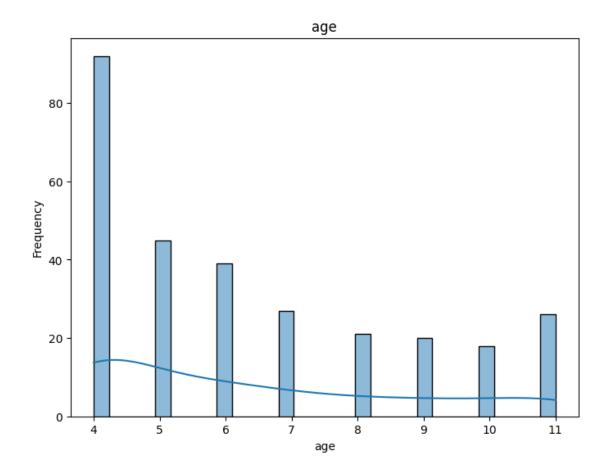


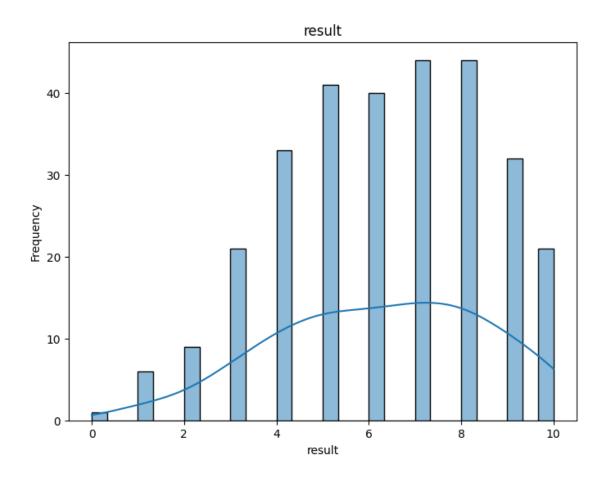






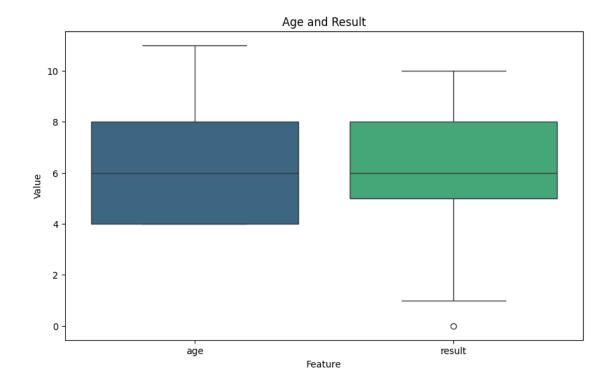






1.5.4 Distribution for age and result features

- The age is centered around 6 years old.
- One outlier is observed for **result** feature and the result column is centered around 6 as the total score after answering the 10 questions.

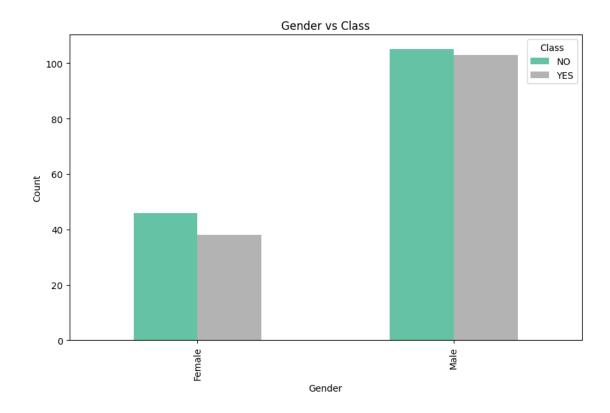


1.5.5 Gender and Class

- In the dataset we find slightly more **female** kids without autism than non autistic female kids.
- Male kids with autism are almost the same as those without autism.

```
[26]: df_original['gender'] = df_original['gender'].replace( {'m': 'Male', 'f':_\( \) 'Female'} )

cross_tab = pd.crosstab( df_original['gender'], df_original['class'] )
cross_tab.plot( kind = 'bar', figsize = ( 10, 6 ), colormap = 'Set2' )
plt.title( 'Gender vs Class' )
plt.xlabel('Gender' )
plt.ylabel( 'Count' )
plt.legend( title = 'Class' )
plt.show()
```



1.5.6 Ethnicity Distribution

Most of the kids in the dataset are **White-European** followed by **Asian**, **Middle Eastern**, **South Asian**, and **Black**.

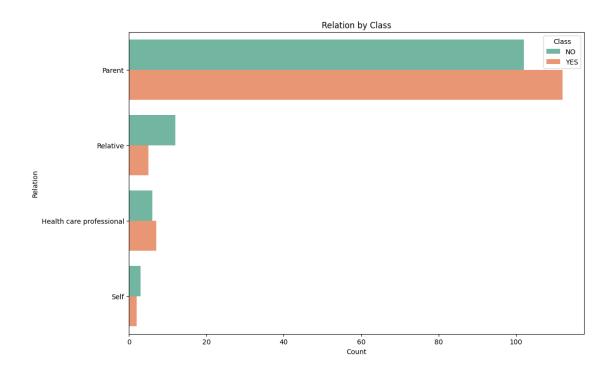
Ethnicity



Latino

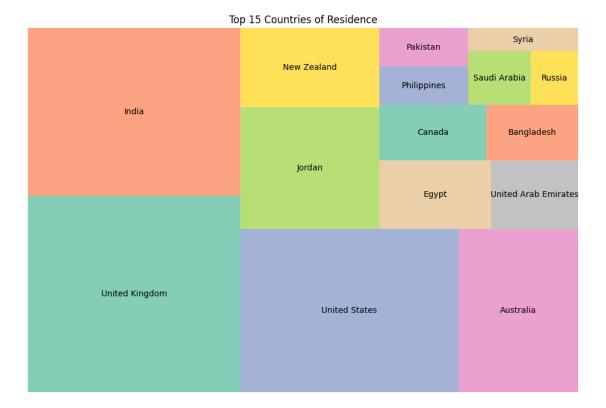
1.5.7 Relation by Class

- The relation is the person who completed the test.
- For the **parent** category, the number of the autistic kids whom they completed the tests for is fairly higher than for the kids without autism.
- For the **relative** category, the number of the autistic kids who they completed the tests for is significantly lower than for the kids without autism.
- For the rest of the categories, the numbers are fairly close.



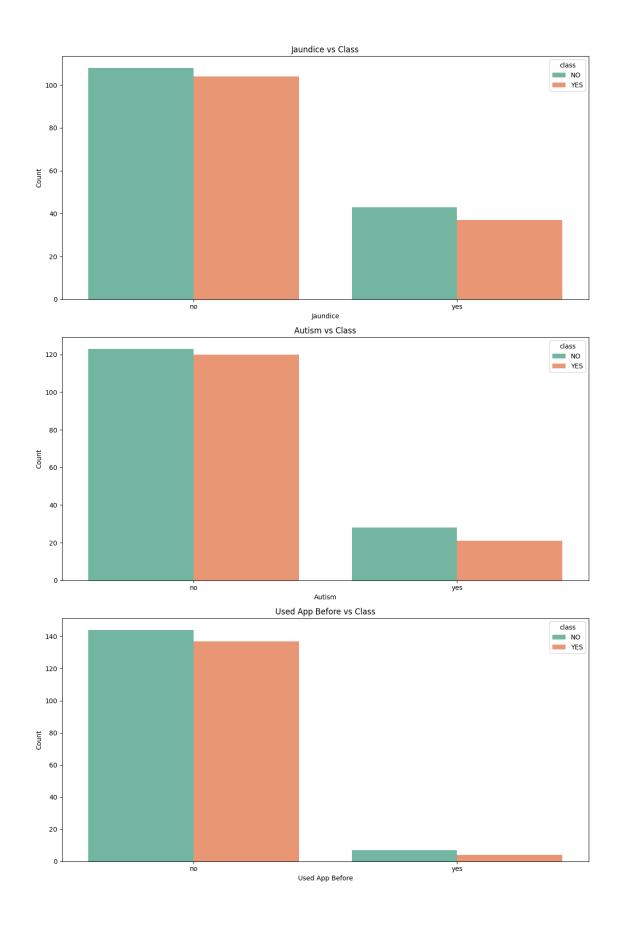
1.5.8 Top 15 Countries of Residence

Most kids in the dataset are from **United Kingdom** and **India** followed by **United States**, **Australia**, **Jordan**, and **New Zealand**.



1.5.9 Comparing jaundice, autism, and used_app_before versus class

- Most of the kids in the dataset do not have **jaundice** but there's no clear relationship between jaundice and having or not having autism.
- autism column shows whether any immediate family member has a pervasive developmental disorder (PDD) (yes or no) and most kids in the dataset in the dataset do not have PDD. Also there's no clear relationship between PDD and having or not having autism.
- used_app_before column means whether the user has used a screening app before (yes or no) and most kids in the dataset do not. Also there's no clear relationship between using having a screening app before and having or not having autism.



1.5.10 PCA and K-Means Clustering

- **PCA** is utilized here to reduce the dataset to **2** principal components, followed by **K-Means** clustering
- The dataset shows 4 clusters that the dataset can be divided into.

```
[31]: numerical_imputer = SimpleImputer( strategy = 'median')
      df_original[df_original.select_dtypes( include = ['number'] ).columns] =__
       unmerical_imputer.fit_transform( df_original.select_dtypes( include =
       df_original[df_original.select_dtypes( include = ['object', 'category']).

columns] = df_original.select_dtypes( include = ['object', 'category'] ).

       ⇔fillna( 'Unknown' )
      label encoders = {}
      for column in df_original.select_dtypes( include = ['object', 'category'] ).
       ⇔columns:
         le = LabelEncoder()
         df_original[column] = le.fit_transform( df_original[column] )
         label_encoders[column] = le
      scaler = MinMaxScaler()
      scaled_data = scaler.fit_transform( df_original )
      pca = PCA( n_components = 2 )
      pca_data = pca.fit_transform( scaled_data )
      wcss = []
      for i in range( 1, 11 ):
         kmeans = KMeans( n_clusters = i, random_state = 42 )
         kmeans.fit( pca_data )
         wcss.append( kmeans.inertia_ )
      plt.figure( figsize = ( 12, 8 ) )
      plt.plot( range(1, 11), wcss, marker = 'o', linestyle = '--')
      plt.title( 'Elbow Method for Optimal Number of Clusters' )
      plt.xlabel( 'Number of Clusters' )
      plt.ylabel( 'WCSS' )
      plt.show()
```

