What is an anomaly?

ANOMALY DETECTION IN R



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Defining the term anomaly

Anomaly: a data point or collection of data points that do not follow the same pattern or have the same structure as the rest of the data



Point anomaly

- A single data point
- Unusual when compared to the rest of the data

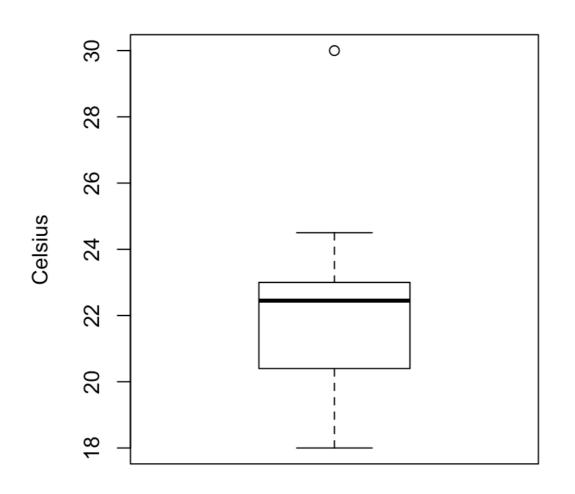
Example: A single 30C daily high temperature among a set of ordinary spring days

```
summary(temperature)
```

```
Min. 1st Qu. Median Mean 3rd Qu. Max.
18.00 20.45 22.45 22.30 22.98 30.00
```

Visualizing point anomalies with a boxplot

```
boxplot(temperature, ylab = "Celsius")
```

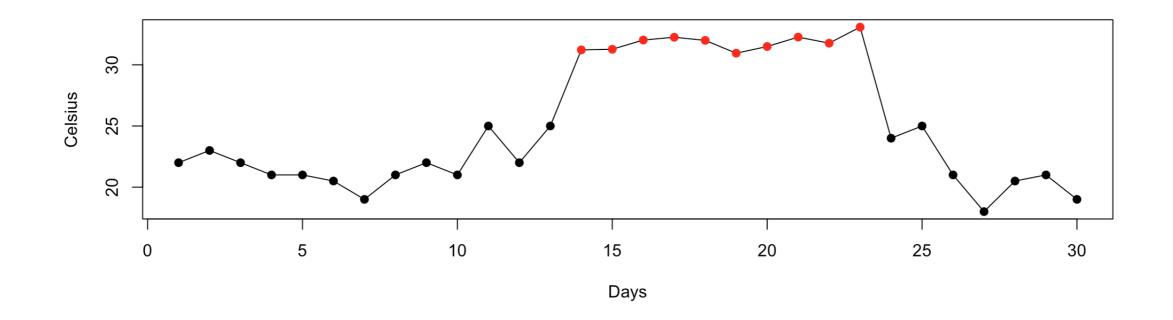




Collective anomaly

- An anomalous collection of data instances
- Unusual when considered together

Example: 10 consecutive high daily temperatures



Let's practice!

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Testing the extremes with Grubbs' test

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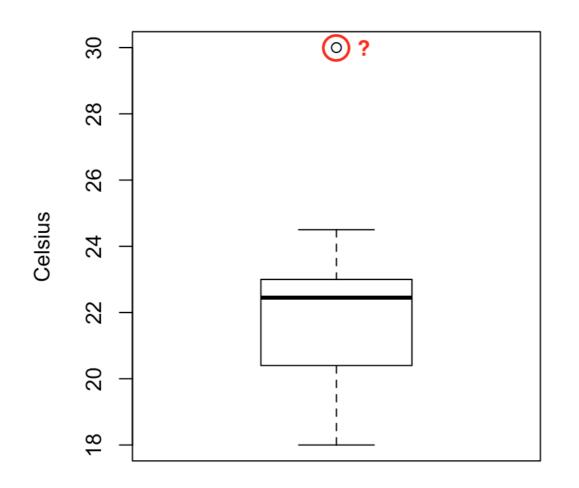


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Visual assessment is not always reliable!

```
boxplot(temperature, ylab = "Celsius")
```





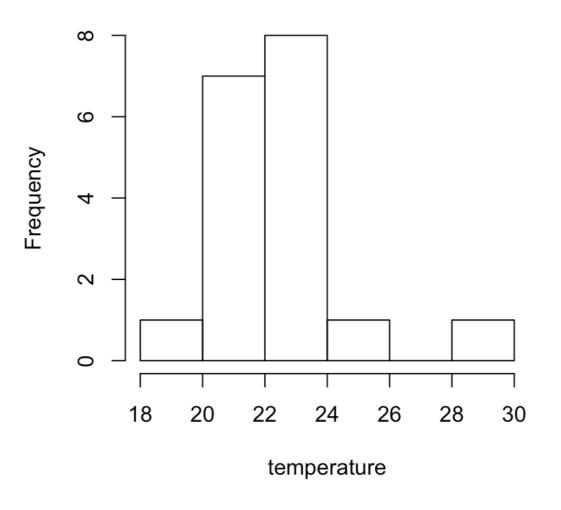
Grubbs' test

- Statistical test to decide if a point is outlying
- Assumes the data are normally distributed
- Requires checking the normality assumption first

Checking normality with a histogram

hist(temperature, breaks = 6)

Histogram of temperature



Running Grubbs' test

Use the grubbs.test() function:

```
grubbs.test(temperature)
```

```
Grubbs test for one outlier
data: temp
G = 3.07610, U = 0.41065, p-value = 0.001796
alternative hypothesis: highest value 30 is an outlier
```

Interpreting the p-value

grubbs.test(temperature)

```
Grubbs test for one outlier

data: temperature

G = 3.07610, U = 0.41065, p-value = 0.001796

alternative hypothesis: highest value 30 is an outlier
```

p-value

- Near 0 stronger evidence of an outlier
- Near 1 weaker evidence of an outlier

Get the row index of an outlier

Location of the maximum

which.max(weights)

5

Location of the **minimum**

which.min(temperature)

12



Let's practice!

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Detecting multiple anomalies in seasonal time series

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Monthly revenue data

```
head(msales)
```

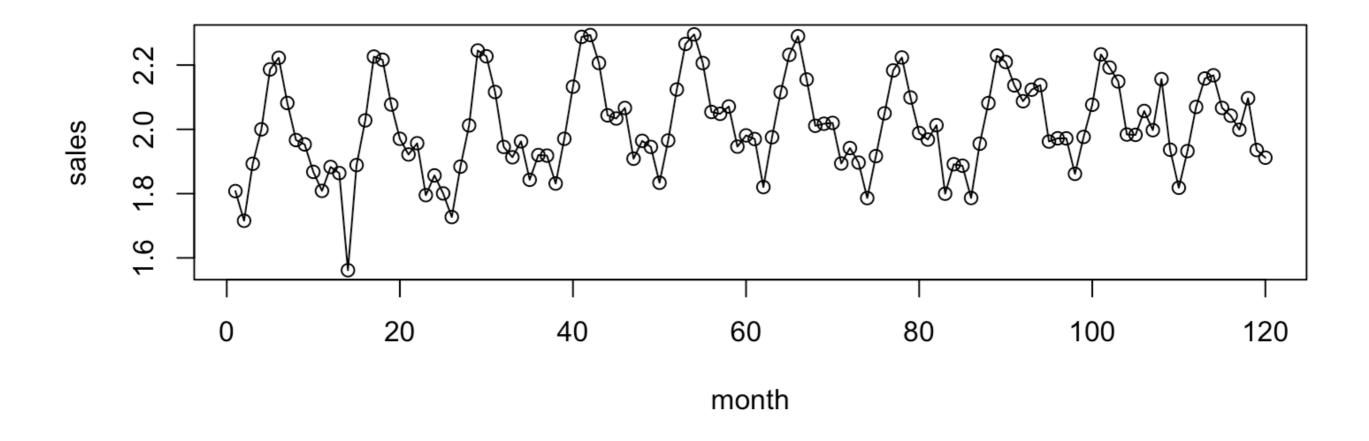
Grubbs' test not appropriate here

- Seasonality may be present
- May be multiple anomalies



Visualizing monthly revenue

```
plot(sales ~ month, data = msales, type = 'o')
```



Seasonal-Hybrid ESD algorithm usage

Arguments

- x : vector of values
- period : period of repeating pattern
- direction: find anomalies that are small ('neg'), large ('pos'), or both ('both')

Package download from https://github.com/twitter/AnomalyDetection

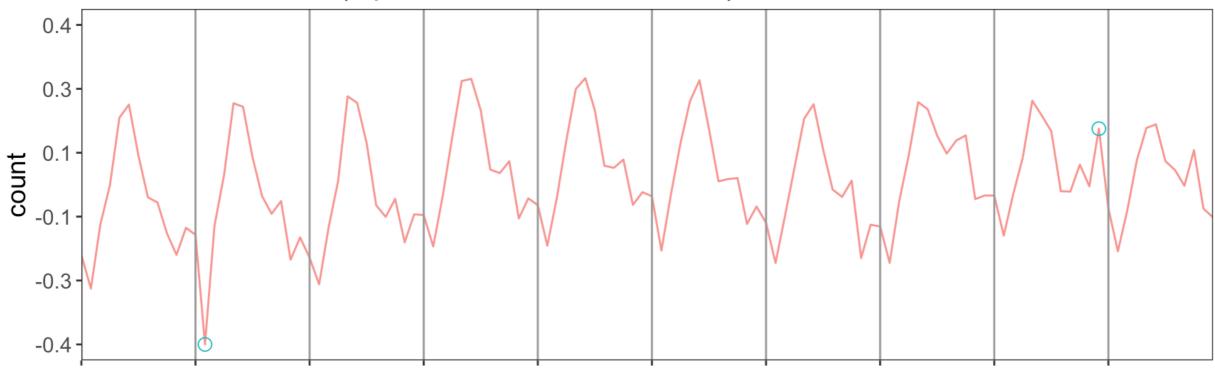
Seasonal-Hybrid ESD algorithm output

sales_ad\$anoms



Seasonal-Hybrid ESD algorithm plot

1.67% Anomalies (alpha=0.05, direction=both)





Let's practice!

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