

# Summarizing a Single Feature

## **Ordinal and Nominal Categorical Data**

Categorical variables can be either ordinal (ordered) or nominal (unordered).

Examples of ordinal variables include places (1st, 2nd, 3rd) and survey responses (on a scale of 1 to 5, how much do you agree with a statement).

Examples of nominal variables include tree species, student names, and account names.

#### Pandas .describe() method

The pandas method, .describe() provides summary statistics for all features in a dataset. Setting include = 'all' includes summary statistics for both quantitative and categorical features.

df.describe(include = 'all')

#### **Central tendency statistics**

To summarize the central tendency, or typical value, of a quantitative variable, we can use statistics such as the mean, median, and mode. These can be calculated using the pandas methods .mean(), .median(), and .mode(), respectively.

```
#calculate mean of a column
df.column_name.mean()

#calculate median of a column
df.column_name.median()

#calculate mode of a column
df.column_name.mode()
```

## **Spread statistics**

To summarize the spread, or variation, of a quantitative variable, we can use statistics such as the range, interquartile range, variance, standard deviation, and mean absolute deviation. These can be calculated as shown.

```
#calculate range of a column
df.column_name.max() - df.column_name.min()
#calculate IQR of a column
df.column_name.quantile(0.75) -
df.column_name.quantile(0.25)
#calculate variance of a column
df.column_name.var()
```



```
#calculate standard deviation of a column
df.column_name.std()
#calculate MAD of a column
df.column_name.mad()
```

### Visualize the distribution of a quantitative/continuous feature

To inspect the distribution of a quantitative variable, we can use visualizations such as histograms and box plots. We can create these plots using the seaborn functions histplot() and boxplot(), respectively.

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import seaborn as sns

#create histogram
sns.histplot(x = 'column_name', data = data_name)
plt.show()

#create boxplot
sns.boxplot(x = 'column_name', data = data_name)
plt.show()
```

## Summary statistics for categorical data

To summarize the distribution of a categorical/discrete feature, we can calculate the number or proportion of observations in each category using the pandas method .value counts .

```
#calculate the number in each category
df.column_name.value_counts()
```

#calculate the proportion in each category
df.column\_name.value\_counts(normalize =
True)

#### Visualizing categorical data

To inspect and explore categorical features, we can use visualizations such as bar charts or pie charts. The provided code demonstrates how to create these plots.

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import seaborn as sns

#create bar chart
sns.countplot(x = 'column_name', data = data_name)
plt.show()

#create pie chart
df.column_name.value_counts().plot.pie()
plt.show()
```





