

# Tabular Data & CSVs

How Data in Data Science Are Commonly Organized and Packaged

# Think-Share Activity

- Think of a typical spreadsheet.
- What are the various parts of a spreadsheet?
- What purpose does each part serve?

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Name of student	Math	Science	History	Civics	Accounting	Total Marks	Percentage
2	Dessie Berta	83	91	67	72	78	391	78%
3	Tam Pridgeon	89	59	64	50	55	317	63%
4	Etta Bogdan	53	90	61	85	50	339	68%
5	Magdalena Spagn	58	60	83	51	97	349	70%
6	Tomika Lumsden	55	64	77	100	65	361	72%
7	Denae Stthomas	89	51	97	91	77	405	81%
8	Arleen Verdun	79	81	52	53	60	325	65%

# Tabular Data

- A spreadsheet is an example of **tabular data**.
- Tabular data is the **most common** type of data in **data science**.
- Tabular data is structured as a **table** with **rows and columns**.
- Each row represents an **observation**.
- Each column represents a different **variable**.
- The first row often contains **column headings**.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Name of student	Math	Science	History	Civics	Accounting	Total Marks	Percentage
2	Dessie Berta	83	91	67	72	78	391	78%
3	Tam Pridgeon	89	59	64	50	55	317	63%
4	Etta Bogdan	53	90	61	85	50	339	68%

# Q&A Activity

What **application** do we commonly use to create tabular data, and what kind of **file** is the tabular data saved in?

# Q&A Activity

What **application** do we commonly use to create tabular data, and what kind of **file** is the tabular data saved in?

Microsoft Excel is probably the most commonly used application.

Excel spreadsheets are commonly saved as XLSX Excel Spreadsheet files.

# CSV Files

- Surprise! We often **don't use XLSX** files for our tabular data in data science.
  - XLSX files are proprietary to Microsoft and contain lots of formatting information which is designed to be read by Microsoft Excel.
- Instead we use **CSV files**.
  - CSV stands for **Comma-Separated Values**.
  - CSV files are **plain text** files with the **.csv** file extension.
  - Each **line** of the file is a row.
  - Each column value in a row is **separated by a comma** character.
- CSV files are convenient for us to read in and process using **computational notebooks**.

```
Height, Age, Gender  
151.765, 63.0, male  
139.7, 63.0, female
```

# How to Make a CSV File in JupyterLab

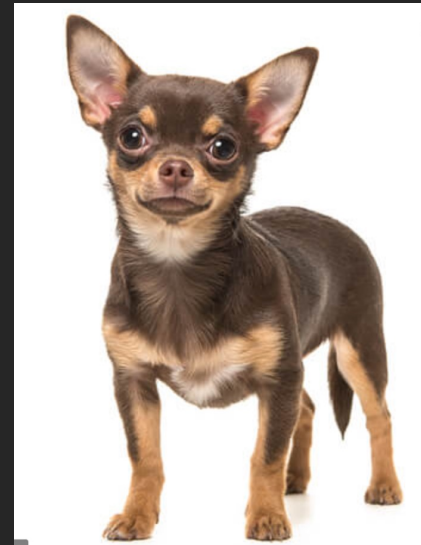
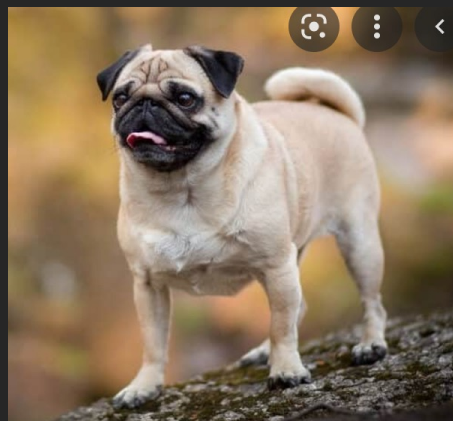
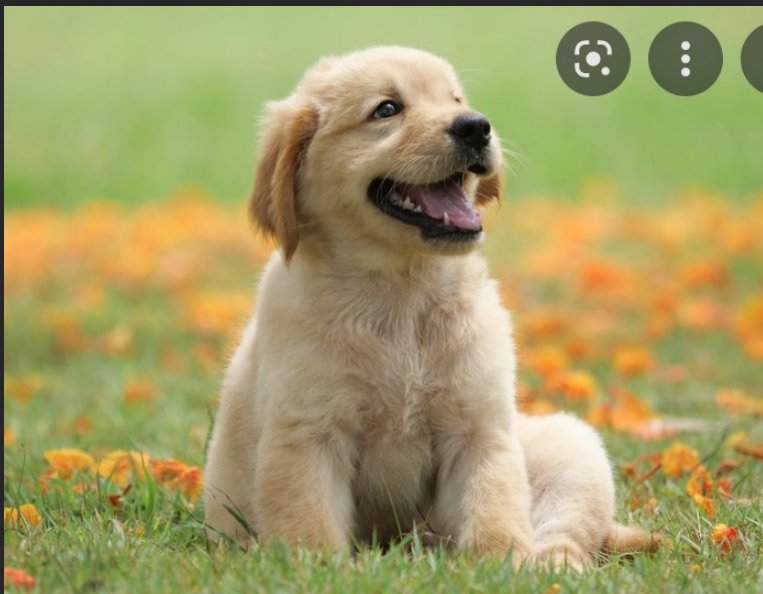
- Open the Launcher.
- Launch the Text File app.
- Edit the text file with rows of comma-separated values.
  - No spaces around commas.
  - Text values with embedded spaces must be surrounded by quotes.
  - Make sure that you have the right number of values in each row.
- Rename the file, changing the .txt file extension to .csv.
- Right click on CSV file in file explorer to either open with CSVTable app (for viewing only) or with Editor app.

Demo Video: <https://youtu.be/NVr8Wf0GS80>

# Activity: Creating a CSV File 🐶



Think of **5 variables** related to dogs that might be interesting



# Creating a CSV File

- Create a CSV file in JupyterLab
  - Include a **column heading** row.
  - Include the **5 variables** we agreed upon.
  - Make up at least **10 observations**.
  - Name the file **dogs.csv**
- When done, call a mentor over to check your work.

# Activity: Create a CSV from Your Own Observations

- Find something nearby or familiar to you of which you have at least 10.
- Create another CSV by collecting data on that something.
  - At least 3 variables.
  - At least 10 observations.
  - Include a header row.
- When done, call a mentor over to check your work.

# Summary

- Tabular data
- Variables and observations
- CSV Files
- How to create CSV files in JupyterLab