

3 types of outlier:

**1. Global**

Values that are completely different from the overall data group

**2. Contextual**

Normal data points under certain conditions but become anomalies under other conditions  
( common in time-data series)

**3. Collective**

Group of abnormal points that follow similar patterns and are isolated from the rest of the populations

Ways to deal with outliers:

**1. Delete**

If you sure when the outliers are mistake, typos or errors

**2. Reassign**

If the dataset is small and/or it will be used for modelling or machine learning.

Common ways to reassign:

- Create a floor and ceiling at a quantile
- Impute the mean or average

**3. Leave**

If the dataset only will be used for analysis, EDA and nothing else or the dataset is resistant to outliers

**Common threshold for outliers**

$$\text{Upper Limit} = \text{Third Quartile} + 1.5 \times \text{Interquartile Range}$$

$$\text{Lower Limit} = \text{First Quartile} - 1.5 \times \text{Interquartile Range}$$

**Categorical data**

- Data that uses words or quality rather than number
- Many data models and algorithms don't work well with categorical data
- Common ways to change categorical data to numerical:
  - **Dummy variables**  
Values of 0 or 1
  - **Label encoding**  
Each category is assigned with a unique number  
The data will be simpler to clean, join, group, takes less storage and algorithm/model will typically runs smoother  
Suitable for large datasets
  - **One hot encoding**  
Each category is represented by 0 or 1  
Suitable for small datasets

Common label encoding python functions:

`df.astype()`

`.cat.codes`

`pd.get_dummies()`

`LabelEncoder()` (scikit-learn.preprocessing)

### **Input Validation**

The practice of thoroughly analyzing and double-checking to make sure data is complete, error-free, and high-quality.