Iris Dataset Analysis

1 - Introduction

We use the built-in iris dataset within R to demonstrate a simple data visualisation. This dataset is comprised of 150 observations, each recording four characteristics of the iris flowers (petal length, petal width, sepal length, sepal width) and their species.

Data Loading

Lets bring the data into our local environment and view the first few rows of the dataset.

	Sepal.Length	${\tt Sepal.Width}$	${\tt Petal.Length}$	${\tt Petal.Width}$	Species
1	5.1	3.5	1.4	0.2	setosa
2	4.9	3.0	1.4	0.2	setosa
3	4.7	3.2	1.3	0.2	setosa
4	4.6	3.1	1.5	0.2	setosa
5	5.0	3.6	1.4	0.2	setosa
6	5.4	3.9	1.7	0.4	setosa

Data Structure

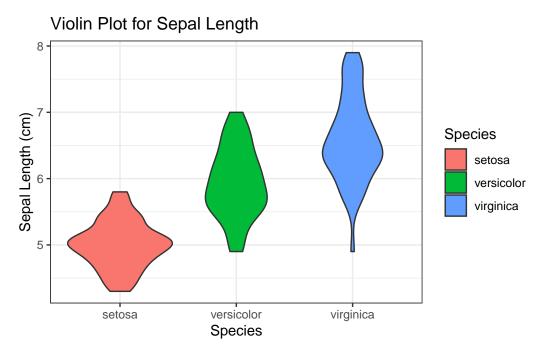
Diving deeper into the datasets composition and the various data types.

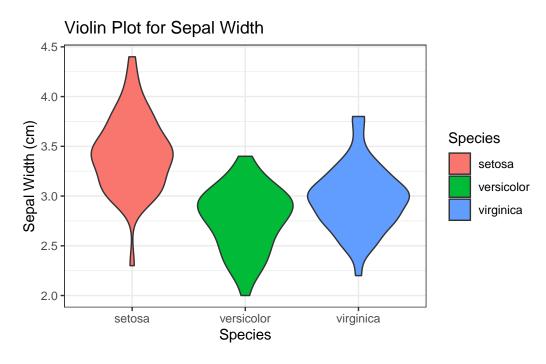
```
'data.frame': 150 obs. of 5 variables:
$ Sepal.Length: num 5.1 4.9 4.7 4.6 5 5.4 4.6 5 4.4 4.9 ...
$ Sepal.Width: num 3.5 3 3.2 3.1 3.6 3.9 3.4 3.4 2.9 3.1 ...
$ Petal.Length: num 1.4 1.4 1.3 1.5 1.4 1.7 1.4 1.5 1.4 1.5 ...
$ Petal.Width: num 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.4 0.3 0.2 0.2 0.1 ...
$ Species : Factor w/ 3 levels "setosa", "versicolor", ..: 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
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2 - Visualisation

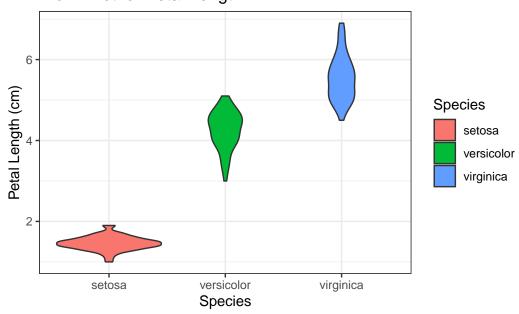
Violin Plots for petal and sepal measurements across each species

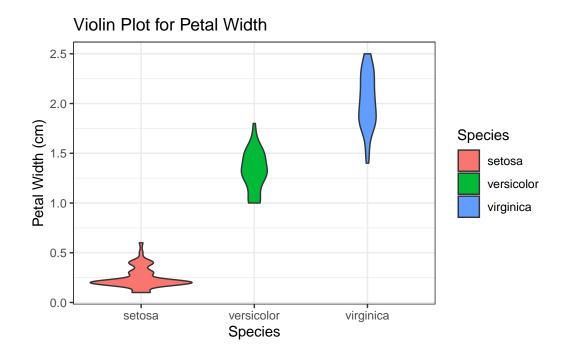
These provide information on both the distribution and the frequency of values which can describe the differences between the species. ggplot2 is used to plot these.





Violin Plot for Petal Length





Visualisations Summary

These plots clearly show the distinctive differences among the 3 species across both petal and sepal lengths and widths Setosa flowers have a tight distribution in their petal length and width, around 1.5 and 0.25 respectively, whereas both versicolor and virginica have much longer lengths in this category with a wider, more spread out distribution.