# Air Quality Index Prediction using Linear Regression

Paper replication



### Summary

01 - Context and problematic

02 - Objectives

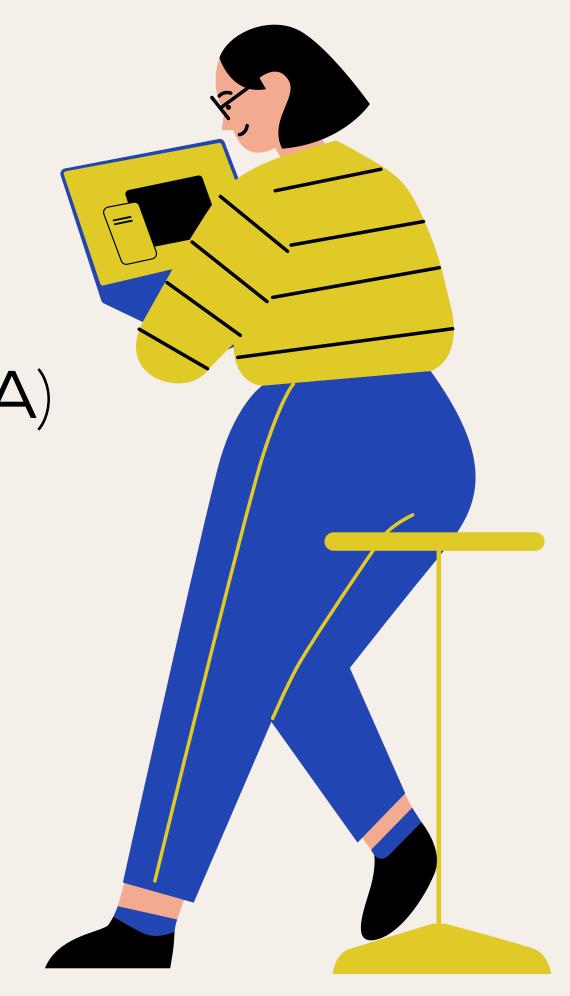
03 - Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA)

04 - Linear Regression Models &

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05 - Tableau

06 - Conclusion



## 01 - Context

Air pollution threatens public health, the environment, and the economy, causing diseases, ecosystem damage, and economic losses. Monitoring and predicting AQI are vital for identifying risks and guiding effective mitigation. Data analytics and predictive models enable proactive strategies to address this global challenge.

The AQI is a numerical scale used to communicate how polluted the air is.

# 01 - problematic

- How can we use pollutant and vehicle data to accurately predict AQI?
- What are the key contributing factors to AQI variations?

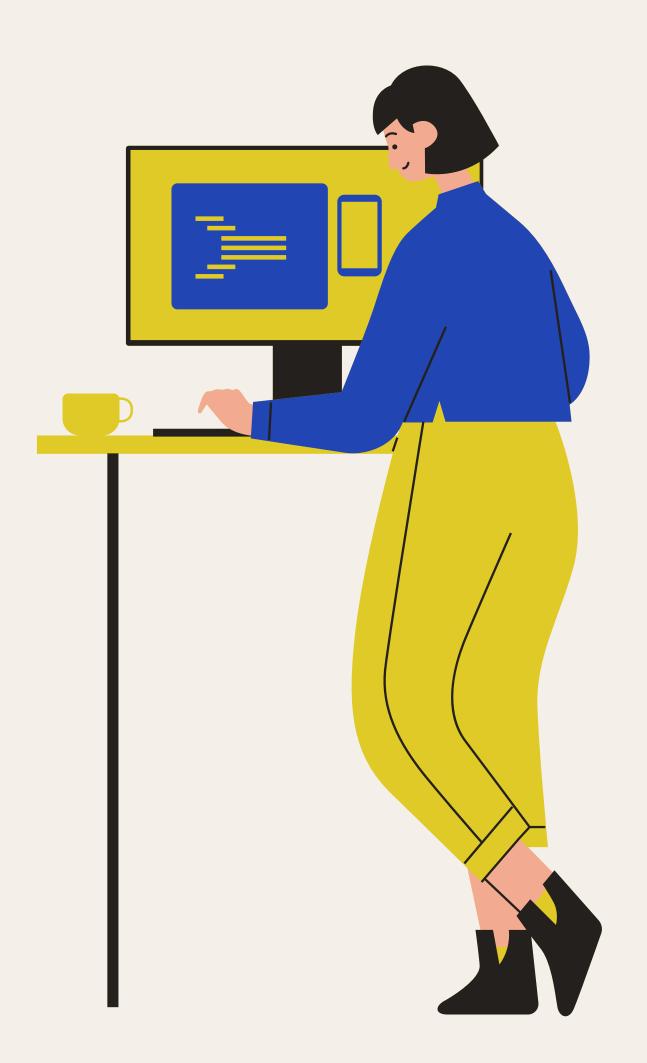
# 02 - Objectives

## **Primary Objectives:**

- Analyze pollutant and vehicle data to identify significant trends.
- Build regression models (simple and multiple) to predict AQI.
- Evaluate model performance using standard metrics.

#### Secondary Objectives:

- Visualize AQI variations across regions.
- Provide actionable insights for reducing pollution levels.



## O3 - Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA)

#### **Data Overview**



#### **Air Pollution Dataset**

#### **Description:**

- Contains air quality data collected from various countries and cities, including pollutant-specific AQI values and overall AQI categories.
- Number of Observations: 23,463 rows.
- Number of Features: 12 columns.

#### **Key Features:**

- Country: Name of the country where the data was collected.
- · City: City within the country.
- AQI.Value: The Air Quality Index value, representing overall air quality.
- AQI.Category: Describes the AQI (e.g., "Good", "Moderate", "Unhealthy").
- Pollutant-Specific Values: Includes AQI values for CO, Ozone, NO2, and PM2.5, along with their corresponding AQI categories.

## 03 - Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA)

#### **Data Overview**



#### Registered Vehicles Dataset

#### **Description:**

- Provides information on vehicle registration density per 1,000 people for various countries.
- Number of Observations: 161 rows.
- Number of Features: 4 columns.

#### **Key Features:**

- Entity: The country of the dataset.
- Year: The year the data was recorded.
- Registered.vehicles.per.1.000.people: The number of vehicles registered per 1,000 people in that country.
- Code: The country code for identification.

	Entity	Code	Year	Registered vehicles per 1,000 people			
1	Afghanistan	AFG	2013	20.724253	Regis		
2	Albania	ALB	2016	194.31734			
3	Antigua and	ATG	2016	400.41788			
4	Argentina	ARG	2016	492.7889			
5	Australia	AUS	2016	דכדכר כב print("Vehicles D:>	ata Overview")		
6	Austria	AUT	2016	[1] "Vehicles Data (	verview"		
7	Azerbaijan	AZE	2016	> print(summary(veh Entity	Cles_data)) Code		
8	Bangladesh	BGD	2016	Length:161	Length:161		
α	Rachadas	RDR	2015	Class :character	Class :charact		

3rd Qu.: 4.000

Max. :91.000

# Registered Vehicles Per 1000 people Dataset

1] "Vehicles Data Overview" print(summary(vehicles\_data))

Entity Code Year Registered.vehicles.per.1.000.people
Length:161 Length:161 Min. :2007 Min. : 4.457
Class:character Class:character 1st Qu.:2016 1st Qu.: 84.071
Mode:character Mode:character Median:2016 Median: 258.296

Median: 2016 Median: 258.296 Mean: 2016 Mean: 319.263 3rd Qu.: 2016 3rd Qu.: 500.625 Max.: 2017 Max.: 1607.512

#### Global Air Pollution Dataset

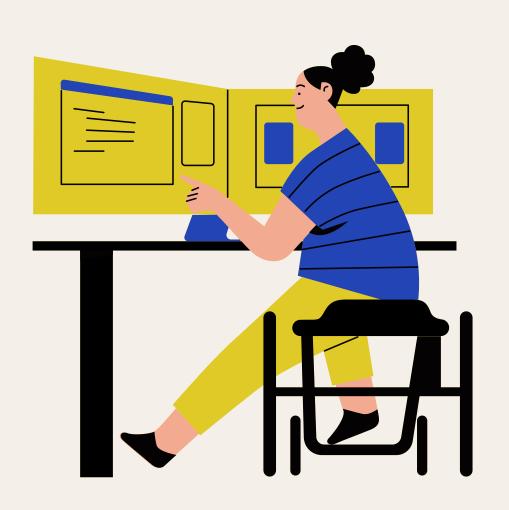
Country	City	AQI Value	<b>AQI</b> Category	CO AQI Value	O AQI Category	Ozone AQI Valu	ie Ozone AQI	Category	NO2 AQI Value	NO2 AQI Category	PM 2.5 AQI Value	PM 2.5 AQI Category
Russian Fed	Praskoveya	!	1 Moderate	1 (	Good		36 Good		0	Good	5	1 Moderate
Brazil	Presidente D	4	I1 Good	1 (	Good		5 Good		1	Good	4	I Good
Italy	Priolo Gargal	. (	66 Moderate	1 (	Good		39 Good		2	Good	6	66 Moderate
Poland	Przasnysz		34 Good		Good		34 Good		0	Good	2	0 Good
France	Punaauia	2	22 Good	> print("Pollu [1] "Pollution								
United State	Punta Gorda	:	4 Moderate	> print(summar								
Germany	Puttlingen		2 Moderate	Country Length:23463	City Length:2		AQI.Value in. : 6.00	AQI.Ca Length		CO.AQI.Value Min. : 0.000	CO.AQI.Categor Length:23463	y Ozone.AQI.Value Min. : 0.00
Belgium	Puurs	(	4 Moderate	Class :charac	_		st Qu.: 39.00	_	:character	1st Qu.: 1.000	_	
Russian Fed	Pyatigorsk	!	Moderate	Mode :charac	ter Mode :		edian : 55.00 ean : 72.01		:character	Median : 1.000 Mean : 1.368		er Median : 31.00 Mean : 35.19
Egypt	Qalyub	14	Unhealthy fo				rd Qu.: 79.00			3rd Qu.: 1.000		3rd Qu.: 40.00
China	Qinzhou		8 Moderate	NO2 AOT Value	NO2 AOT C		ax. :500.00		T Catagony	Max. :133.000		Max. :235.00
Netherlands	Raalte		I1 Good	NO2.AQI.Value Min. : 0.00			.5.AQI.Value . : 0.00	Length:2				

3rd Qu.: 79.00

Max. :500.00

## 03 - Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA)

#### **Data Overview**



#### **Merged Dataset**

#### **Description:**

- Combines the air pollution and vehicle registration datasets by country to analyze the relationship between air quality and vehicle density.
- Number of Observations: 17,195 rows.
- Number of Features: 15 columns.

#### **Key Features:**

- Includes all features from the pollution dataset (e.g., AQI, pollutants) and vehicle density data.
- Added Registered.vehicles.per.1.000.people from the vehicle dataset.
- Dropped Code from the combined Dataset.
- Renamed Registered.vehicles.per.1.000.people to Vehicles

#### **Necessity of Merge:**

- Objective: To explore how vehicle density influences air pollution levels and AQI trends.
- By merging these datasets, we can link vehicle data to specific AQI observations, enabling comprehensive regression analysis.

## Merged Dataset

	Country	City	AQI.Value	AQI.Category	CO.AQI.Value	CO.AQI.Cate	Ozone.AQI.V	Ozone.AQI.Category	NO2.AQI.Value	NO2.AQl.Category	PM 2.5.AQI. Value	PM 2.5.AQI.Category	Year	Vehicles
1	Afghanistan	Zaranj	133	Unhealthy fo	1	Good	46	Good	0	Good	133	Unhealthy for Sensitive	2013	20.72425
2	Afghanistan	Asmar	151	Unhealthy	2	Good	48	Good	1	Good	15	1 Unhealthy	2013	20.72425
3	Afghanistan	Panjab	83	Moderate	0	Good	28	Good	0	Good	83	3 Moderate	2013	20.72425
4	Afghanistan	Mehtar Lam	63	Moderate	1	Good	45	Good	0	Good	63	3 Moderate	2013	20.72425
5	Afghanistan	Mirabad	165	Unhealthy	1	Good	45	Good	0	Good	165	5 Unhealthy	2013	20.72425
6	Afghanistan	Rostaq	113	Unhealthy fo	1	Good	42	Good	0	Good	113	Unhealthy for Sensitive	2013	20.72425
7	Afghanistan	Kholm	123	Unhealthy fo	1	Good	35	Good	0	Good	123	Unhealthy for Sensitive	2013	20.72425
8	Afghanistan	Lar Gerd	70	Moderate	0	Good	34	Good	0	Good	7(	Moderate	2013	20.72425
9	Afghanistan	Kuhestan	151	Unhealthy	1	Good	41	Good	0	Good	15	1 Unhealthy	2013	20.72425
10	Afghanistan	Gazni	83	Moderate	0	Good	40	Good	0	Good	83	3 Moderate	2013	20.72425
11	Afghanistan	Taloqan	127	Unhealthy fo	1	Good	29	Good	0	Good	12	7 Unhealthy for Sensitive	2013	20.72425
12	Afahanistan	Ranlan	72	Moderate	1	Good	11	Good	n	Good	7	Moderate	2013	20 72/25

#### > print("Combined Data Overview") [1] "Combined Data Overview" > print(summary(merged\_data)) AQI.Value Country City AQI.Category CO.AQI.Value CO. AQI. Category Ozone. AQI. Value Ozone. AQI. Category Min. : 7.00 Min. : 0.000 Length:17195 Length:17195 Length:17195 Length:17195 Min. : 0.00 Length:17195 Class :character Class :character Class :character 1st Qu.: 40.00 1st Qu.: 1.000 Class :character 1st Qu.: 22.00 Class :character Median : 57.00 Median : 1.000 Median : 31.00 Mode :character Mode :character Mode :character Mode :character Mode :character Mean : 76.95 Mean : 1.361 Mean : 37.19 3rd Qu.: 88.00 3rd Qu.: 1.000 3rd Qu.: 41.00 :500.00 Max. :67.000 :210.00 Max. Max. Vehicles | NO2.AOI.Value PM2.5.AQI.Value PM2.5.AQI.Category NO2.AQI.Category Year Min. : 0.000 Length:17195 Min. : 0.00 Length:17195 :2007 Min. : 4.457 Min. Class :character 1st Qu.: 36.00 Class :character 1st Qu.:2015 1st Qu.: 0.000 1st Qu.:158.147 Median : 1.000 Mode :character Median : 57.00 Mode :character Median:2016 Median :461.903 Mean : 73.35 Mean : 2.396 :2016 Mean :427.863 Mean 3rd Qu.: 87.00 3rd Qu.:2016 3rd Qu.: 3.000 3rd Qu.:652.578 :64.000 :500.00 :2017 :949.482 Max. Max. Max. Max.

## Missing Values

```
> print(merged_data_missing)
Country City AQI.Value AQI.Category CO.AQI.Value CO.AQI.Category Ozone.AQI.Value Ozone.AQI.Category
0 0 0 0 0 0
NO2.AQI.Value NO2.AQI.Category PM2.5.AQI.Value PM2.5.AQI.Category Year Vehicles
0 0 0 0 0
```

Our Merged Dataset Doesn't contain any missing values

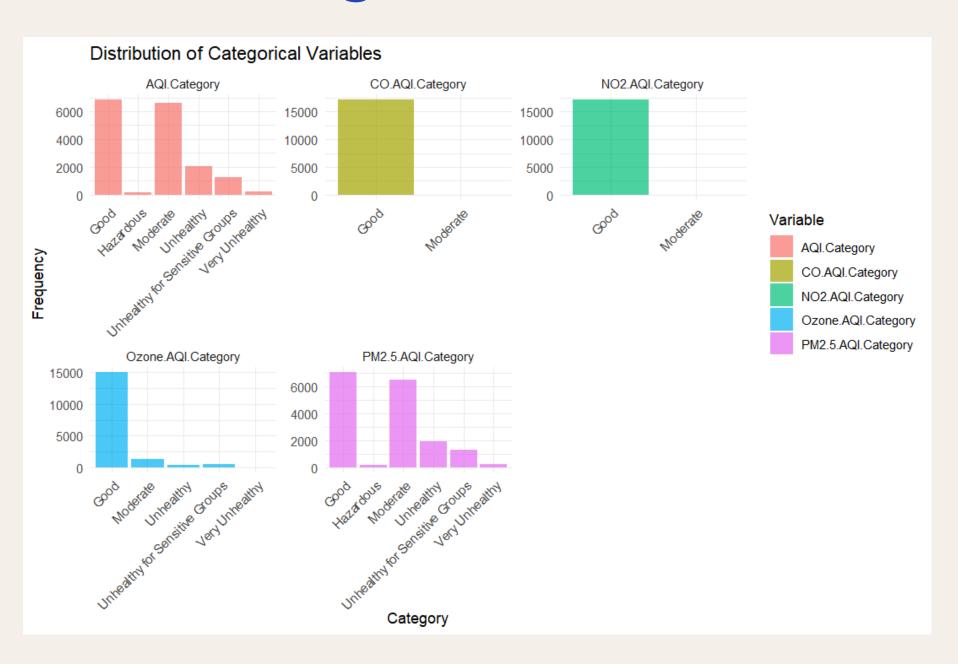
## **Duplicated Rows**

```
> print(merged_data_missing)
Country City AQI.Value AQI.Category CO.AQI.Value CO.AQI.Category Ozone.AQI.Value Ozone.AQI.Category
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
NO2.AQI.Value NO2.AQI.Category PM2.5.AQI.Value PM2.5.AQI.Category Year Vehicles
0 0 0 0 0
```

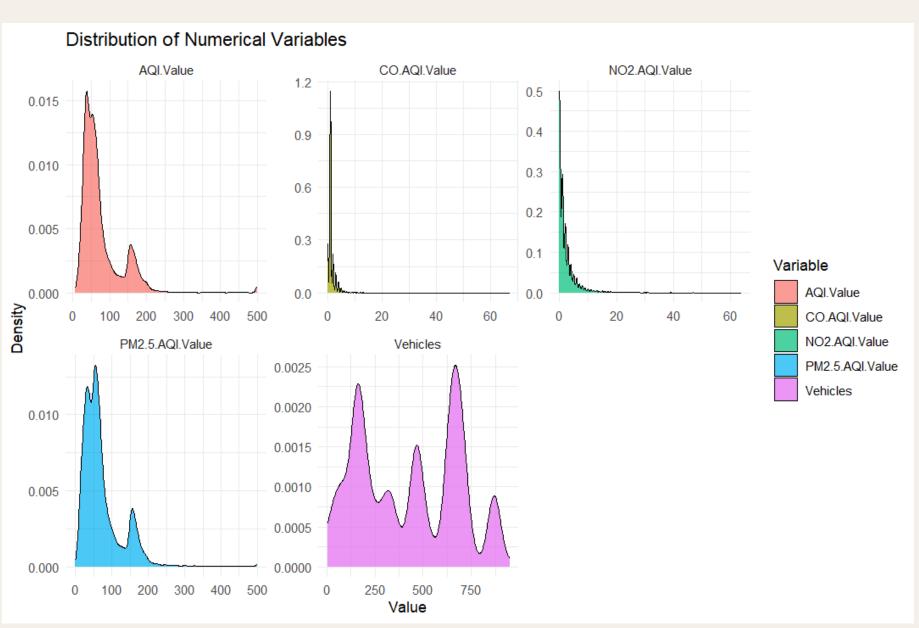
Our Merged Dataset Doesn't contain any duplicated rows

## Numerical Vs Categorical

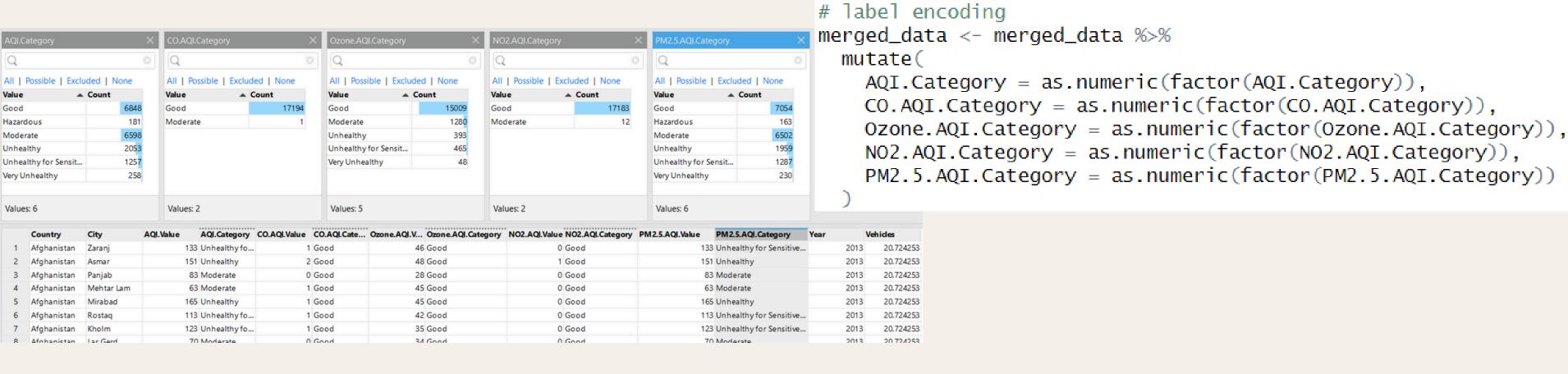
#### Categorical Features



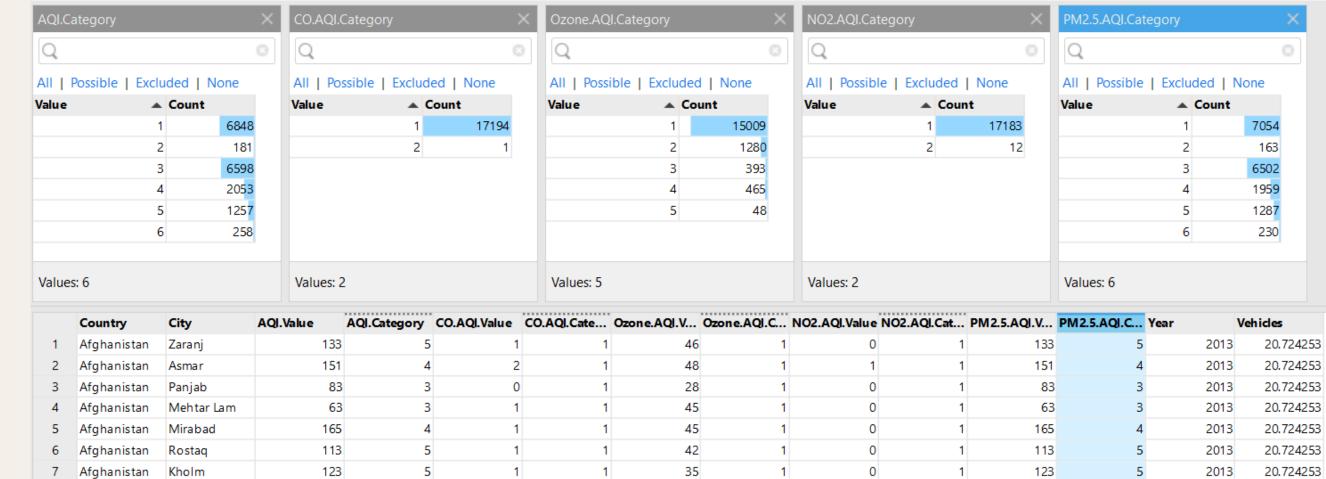
#### **Numerical Features**



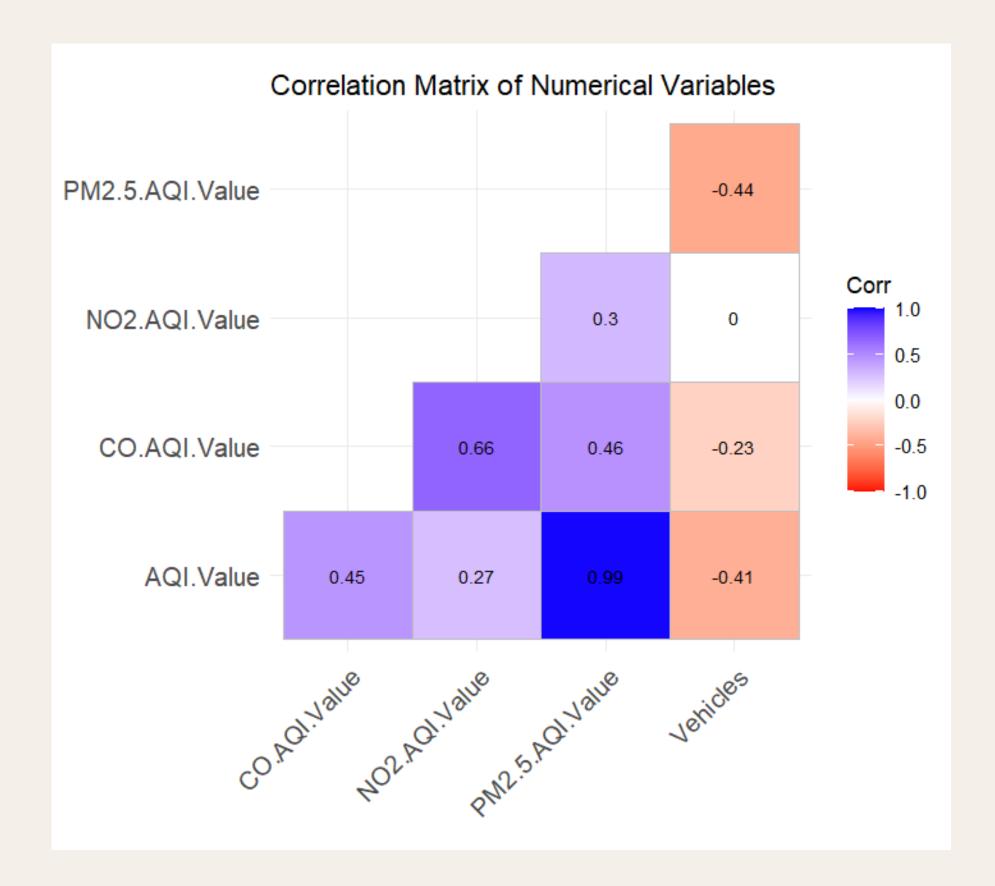
## **Label Encoding**



We used label encoding to to convert categorical columns into numerical ones

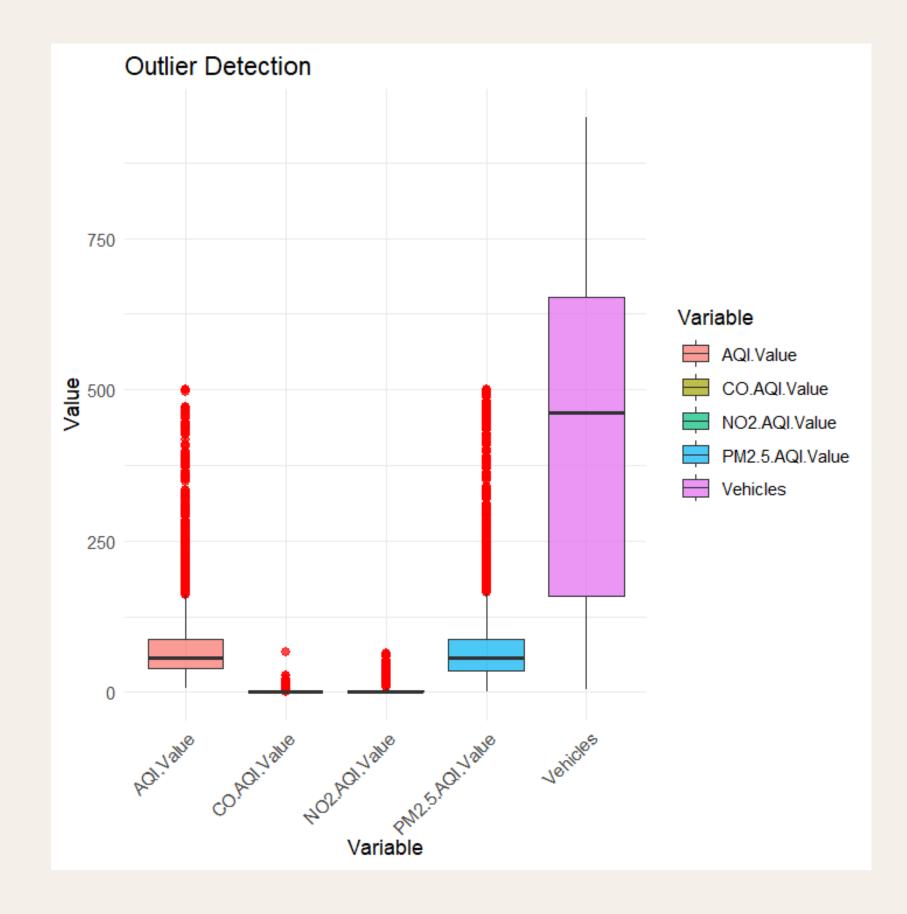


#### **Correlation Matrix**



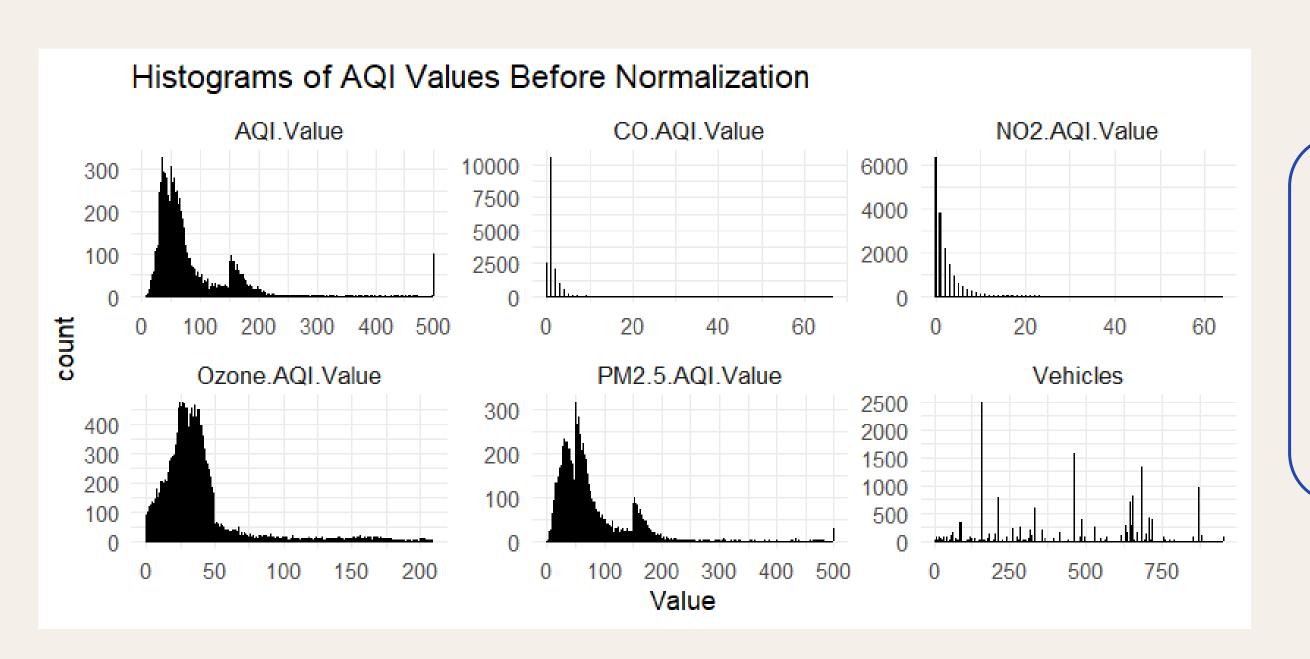
The correlation matrix shows strong multicollinearity between PM2.5.AQI.Value and AQI.Value (0.99) and a moderate correlation between CO.AQI.Value and other variables (e.g., 0.66).

#### **Outliers**



The boxplot highlights significant outliers in the AQI.Value, PM2.5.AQI.Value, and Vehicles variables. These outliers could skew results for parametric tests.

## Histogram



The histograms reveal highly skewed distributions for most numerical variables (e.g., AQI.Value, CO.AQI.Value, PM2.5.AQI.Value), deviating significantly from normality.

Given the high skewness, presence of significant outliers, and multicollinearity, it is appropriate to proceed with normalization to standardize the scale of numerical features, reduce skewness, and prepare the dataset for further analysis.

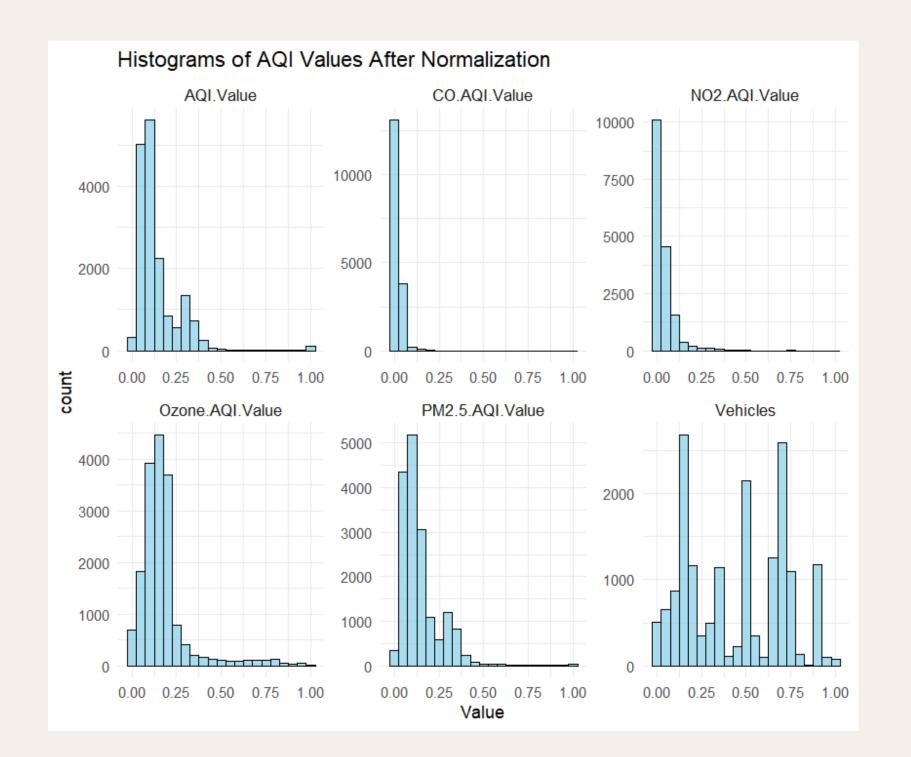
#### Normalization

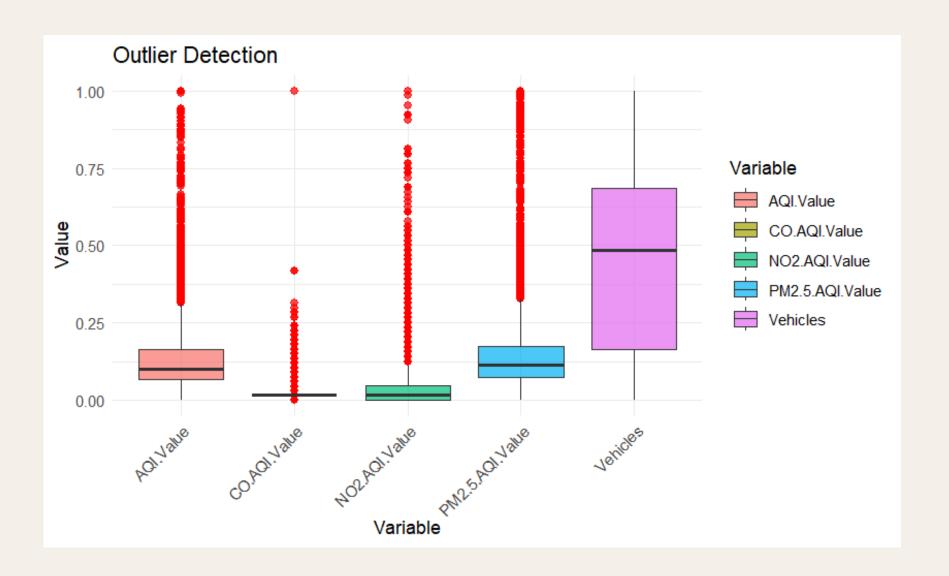
The method we used here is min-max normalization, which rescales the data into a range of [0, 1].

```
merged_data <- merged_data %>%
  mutate(
    AQI.Value = rescale(AQI.Value, to = c(0, 1)),
    CO.AQI.Value = rescale(CO.AQI.Value, to = c(0, 1)),
    Ozone.AQI.Value = rescale(Ozone.AQI.Value, to = c(0, 1)),
    NO2.AQI.Value = rescale(NO2.AQI.Value, to = c(0, 1)),
    PM2.5.AQI.Value = rescale(PM2.5.AQI.Value, to = c(0, 1)),
    Vehicles = rescale(Vehicles, to = c(0, 1))
)
```

This technique preserves the relative relationships of the original data while ensuring all numerical features are on the same scale, making it suitable for models sensitive to varying ranges.

```
> shapiro_test_results <- merged_data_cleaned %>%
+    select(AQI.Value, CO.AQI.Value, Ozone.AQI.Value, NO2.AQI.Value, PM2.5.AQI.Value, Vehicles) %>%
+    summarise(across(everything(), ~ shapiro.test(.)$p.value)) %>%
+    gather(key = "Variable", value = "Shapiro-Wilk p-value")
Error in `summarise()`:
i    In argument: `across(everything(), ~shapiro.test(.)$p.value)`.
Caused by error in `across()`:
!    Can't compute column `AQI.Value`.
Caused by error in `shapiro.test()`:
!    sample size must be between 3 and 5000
Run `r.lang::last_trace()` to see where the error occurred.
>    # Print the results of the Shapiro-Wilk test
>    print(shapiro_test_results)
Error: object 'shapiro_test_results' not found
```





The normalized data is still skewed for most variables (AQI.Value, CO, NO2, PM2.5, etc.), although the values are now constrained between 0 and 1.

The presence of outliers and nonnormality suggests that assumptions for parametric tests like t-tests or ANOVA may not hold.

```
# Compute skewness and kurtosis for numerical variables
skewness_kurtosis <- data.frame(
 Variable = c("AQI.Value", "CO.AQI.Value", "Ozone.AQI.Value", "NO2.AQI.Value", "PM2.5.AQI.Value", "Vehicles"),
 Skewness = c(
   skewness(merged_data$AQI.Value, na.rm = TRUE),
   skewness(merged_data$CO.AQI.Value, na.rm = TRUE),
   skewness(merged_data$0zone.AQI.Value, na.rm = TRUE),
   skewness(merged_data$NO2.AQI.Value, na.rm = TRUE),
   skewness(merged_data$PM2.5.AQI.Value, na.rm = TRUE),
   skewness(merged_data$Vehicles, na.rm = TRUE)
 Kurtosis = c(
   kurtosis(merged_data$AQI.Value, na.rm = TRUE),
   kurtosis(merged_data$CO.AQI.Value, na.rm = TRUE),
   kurtosis(merged_data$0zone.AQI.Value, na.rm = TRUE),
   kurtosis(merged_data$NO2.AQI.Value, na.rm = TRUE),
   kurtosis(merged_data$PM2.5.AQI.Value, na.rm = TRUE),
   kurtosis(merged_data$Vehicles, na.rm = TRUE)
```

#### > print(skewness\_kurtosis)

Variable Skewness Kurtosis
AQI.Value 3.03206853 17.699996
CO.AQI.Value 8.75102520 255.434551
Cone.AQI.Value 2.79921156 12.244145
NO2.AQI.Value 4.87096042 41.409858
PM2.5.AQI.Value 2.61983127 14.508415
Vehicles 0.08333046 1.707021

#### **AQI.Value:**

Skewness: 3.03, indicating a right-skewed distribution (long tail on the right).

Kurtosis: 17.7, indicating a highly leptokurtic distribution (heavy tails with more outliers than normal).

#### **CO.AQI.Value:**

Skewness: 8.75, suggesting high positive skew (significant right skew).

Kurtosis: 255.43, suggesting extremely heavy tails (very high presence of outliers).

#### Ozone.AQI.Value:

Skewness: 2.80, showing moderate right skew. Kurtosis: 12.24, indicating moderately high kurtosis, meaning some outliers.

#### NO2.AQI.Value:

Skewness: 4.87, indicating strong right skew. Kurtosis: 41.41, showing extremely high kurtosis, pointing to many outliers.

#### PM2.5.AQI.Value:

Skewness: 2.62, indicating moderate right skew. Kurtosis: 14.51, showing high kurtosis (more outliers).

#### **Vehicles:**

Skewness: 0.08, indicating very little skew, close to a normal distribution.

Kurtosis: 1.71, indicating a platykurtic distribution (light tails, fewer outliers than normal).

## Analyzing Air Quality Across Vehicle Density Groups

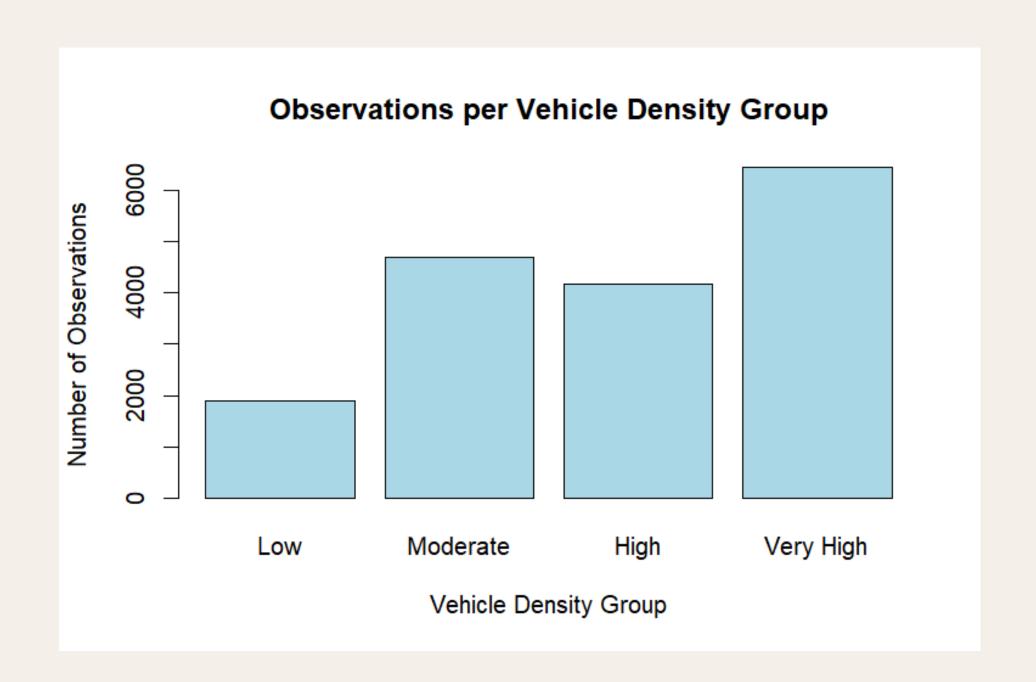
Test if AQI significantly differs across four vehicle density groups.

We will Investigate the relationship between vehicle density and air quality index (AQI).

#### **Key Variables:**

**AQI.Value:** Air Quality Index (normalized).

Vehicle Density Groups: Created by binning vehicle density into "Low," "Moderate," "High," and "Very High."



## Analyzing Air Quality Across Vehicle Density Groups

kruskal\_test <- kruskal.test(AQI.Value ~ Vehicle\_Density\_Group, data = merged\_data\_cleaned)

Kruskal-Wallis Test for Group Differences Step 1: Hypotheses Null Hypothesis (HO):

AQI values are the same across vehicle density groups.

**Alternative Hypothesis (H1):** 

At least one group has significantly different AQI values.

Step 2: Kruskal-Wallis Test Results

Chi-squared value: 4150.9 Degrees of freedom: 3 p-value: < 2.2e-16 There is strong evidence to suggest that the AQI values differ significantly among the four vehicle density groups ("Low," "Moderate," "High," and "Very High"). This result implies that vehicle density likely impacts air quality (as represented by AQI).

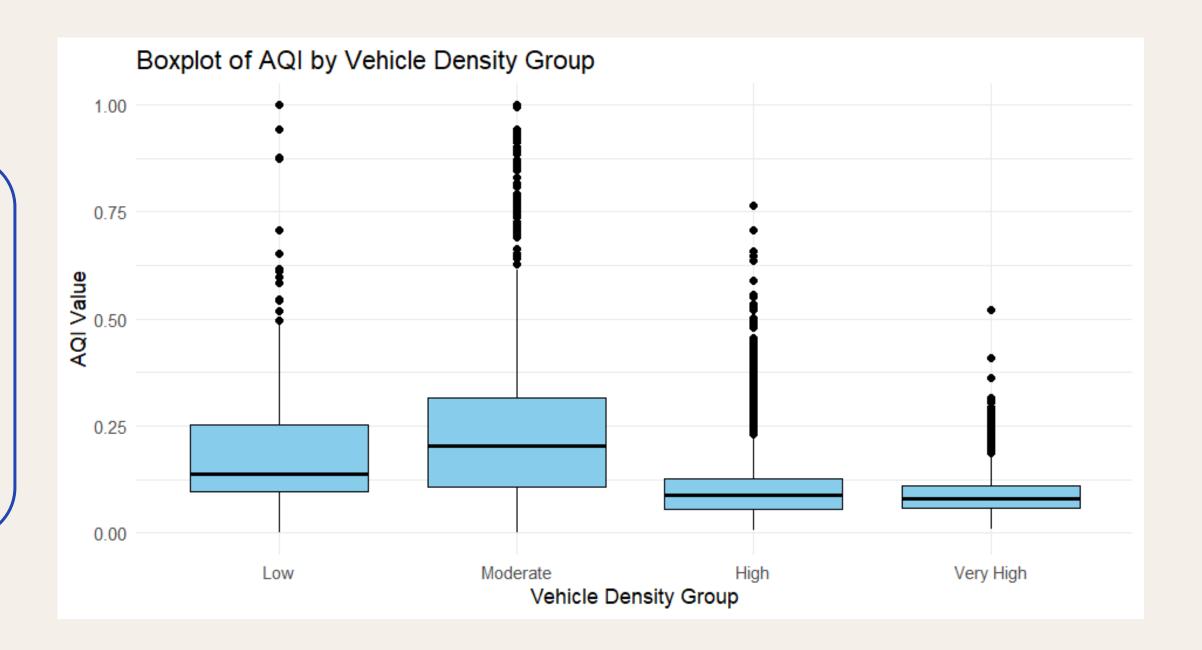
```
> cat("Kruskal-Wallis Test Results:\n")
Kruskal-Wallis Test Results:
> print(kruskal_test)

    Kruskal-Wallis rank sum test

data: AQI.Value by Vehicle_Density_Group
Kruskal-Wallis chi-squared = 4150.9, df = 3, p-value < 2.2e-16</pre>
```

```
if (kruskal_test$p.value < 0.05) {
  cat("The Kruskal-Wallis test indicates significant differences in AQI values across vehicle density groups.\n")
  cat("Review the pairwise Wilcoxon test results for detailed group comparisons.\n")
} else {
  cat("No significant difference in AQI values across vehicle density groups.\n")
}</pre>
```

The boxplot visualizes the distribution of AQI values across the different vehicle density groups. It also includes significance levels, showing which comparisons have statistically significant differences in AQI values.



# O4 - Linear Regression Models& Evaluation Simple Linear Regression

```
# Linear Regression: AQI vs Vehicles_Per_1000_People
linear_model <- lm(AQI.Value ~ Vehicles, data = merged_data_cleaned)</pre>
```

```
> cat("Linear Regression Summary:\n")
Linear Regression Summary:
> summary(linear_model)
Call:
lm(formula = AQI.Value ~ Vehicles, data = merged_data_cleaned)
Residuals:
              1Q Median
    Min
                                       Max
-0.22283 -0.06519 -0.02361 0.04138 0.80439
Coefficients:
            Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept) 0.226219 0.001653 136.87 <2e-16 ***
Vehicles -0.188206 0.003147 -59.81 <2e-16 ***
Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' '1
Residual standard error: 0.1131 on 17193 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared: 0.1722, Adjusted R-squared: 0.1722
F-statistic: 3577 on 1 and 17193 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

## Simple Linear Regression

The linear regression analysis between AQI.Value and Vehicles (number of vehicles) shows the following:

#### 1. Negative Trend:

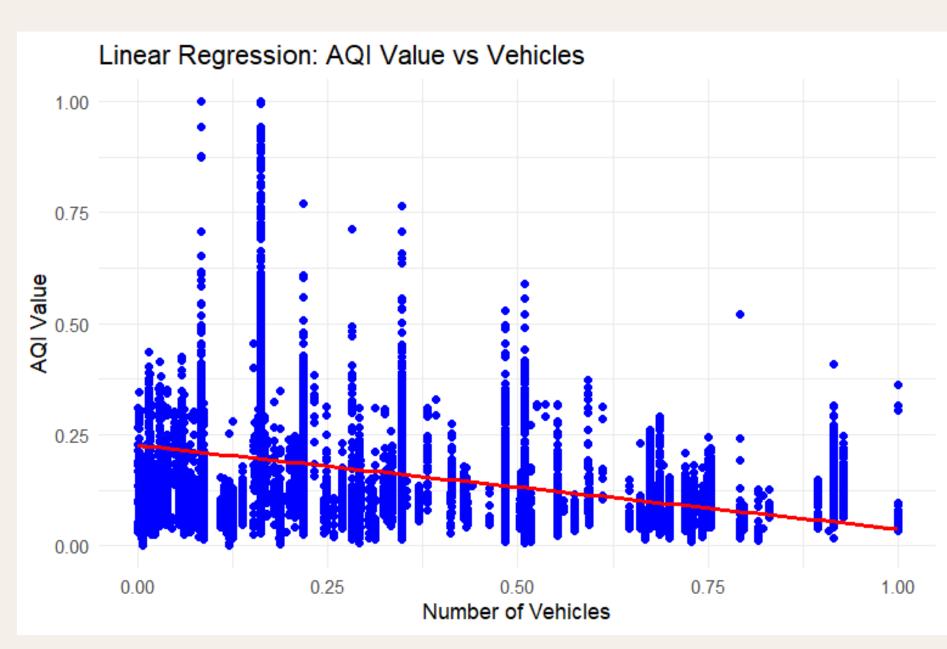
- The regression line (red) shows a negative slope.
   This indicates a weak negative relationship between the number of vehicles and AQI value.
- As the number of vehicles increases, the AQI value tends to decrease slightly.

#### 2. Scattered Data:

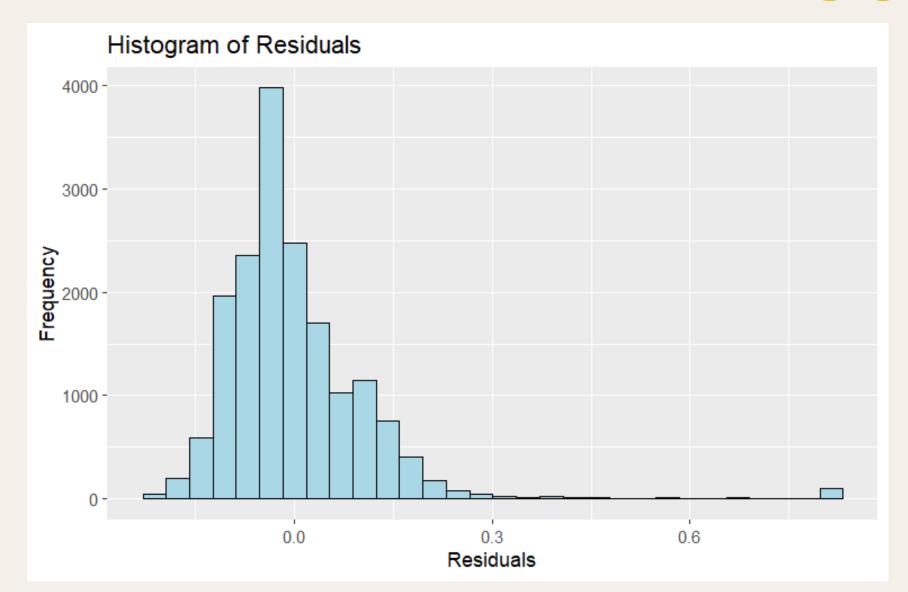
- The data points (blue) are widely scattered, suggesting high variance in AQI values for any given number of vehicles.
- This weakens the strength of the linear relationship.

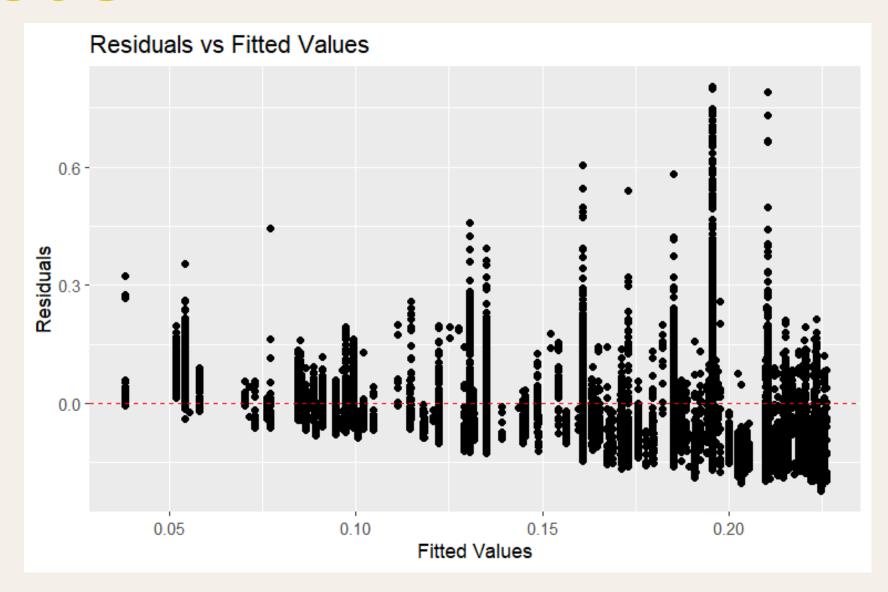
#### 3. Outliers:

 The presence of many points far from the regression line shows potential outliers or noise in the data, which could affect the model's accuracy.



## Simple Linear Regression Evaluation





```
> cat("Linear Regression RMSE:", linear_rmse, "\n")
Linear Regression RMSE: 0.1130997
> cat("Linear Regression MAE:", linear_mae, "\n")
Linear Regression MAE: 0.07592861
> cat("Linear Regression MAPE:", linear_mape, "%\n")
Linear Regression MAPE: Inf %
```

## 04 - Linear Regression Models

## Multiple Linear Regression

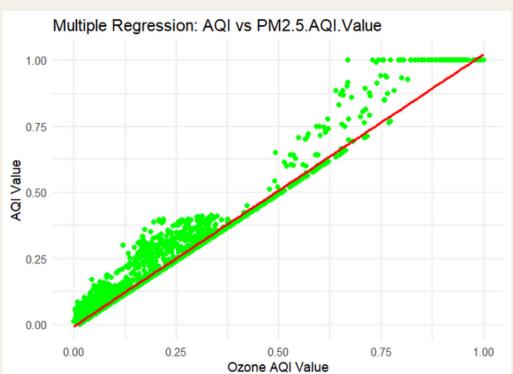
```
multiple_model <- lm(AQI.Value ~ CO.AQI.Value + Ozone.AQI.Value + NO2.AQI.Value + Vehicles, data = merged_data_cleaned)
                            > cat("Multiple Regression Summary:\n")
                            Multiple Regression Summary:
                            > summary(multiple_model)
                            Call:
                            lm(formula = AQI.Value ~ CO.AQI.Value + Ozone.AQI.Value + NO2.AQI.Value +
                                Vehicles, data = merged_data_cleaned)
                            Residuals:
                                          10 Median
                                 Min
                            -0.58603 -0.04357 -0.01718 0.01797 0.85405
                            Coefficients:
                                            Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
                                            0.123828
                                                      0.001872 66.14 <2e-16 ***
                            (Intercept)
                                                       0.049821 13.67 <2e-16 ***
                            CO.AQI.Value
                                            0.681102
                                                       0.005445 58.56 <2e-16 ***
                            Ozone. AQI. Value 0.318839
                                                       0.015828 27.82 <2e-16 ***
                            NO2.AOI.Value 0.440345
                            Vehicles
                                           -0.153368
                                                       0.002761 -55.55 <2e-16 ***
                            Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' '1
                            Residual standard error: 0.09458 on 17190 degrees of freedom
                            Multiple R-squared: 0.4213, Adjusted R-squared: 0.4211
```

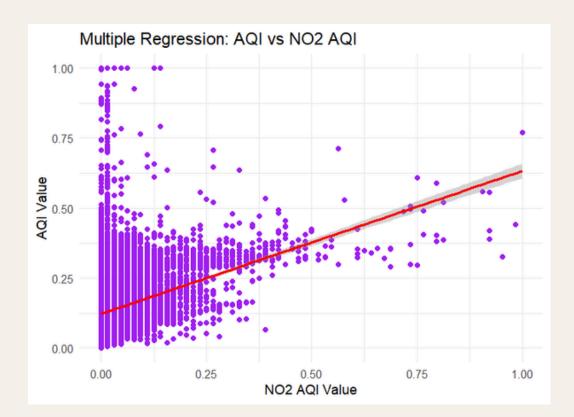
F-statistic: 3128 on 4 and 17190 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16

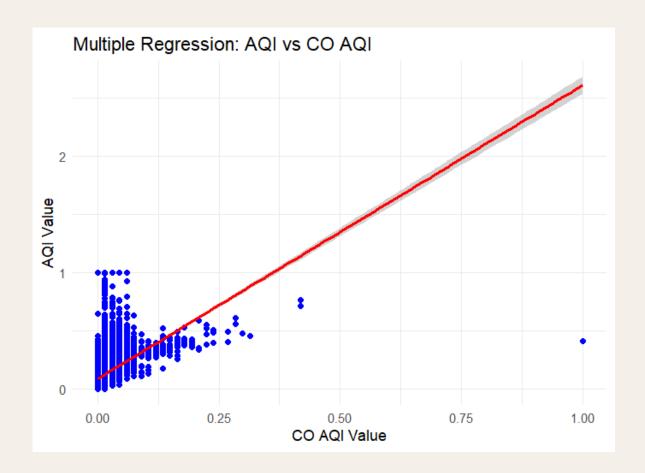
# Multiple Regression

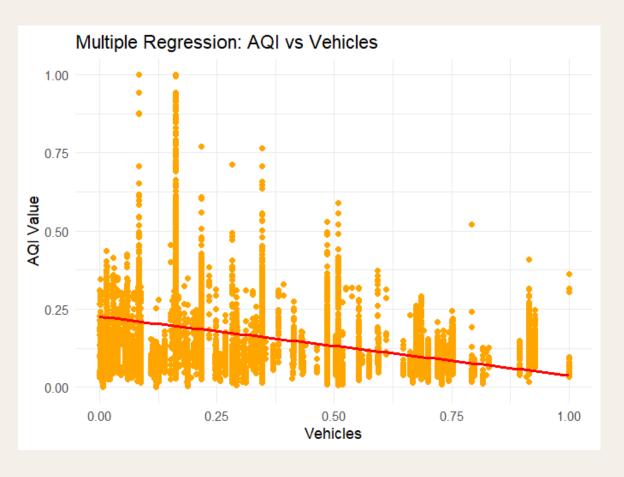
## Multiple Linear Regression











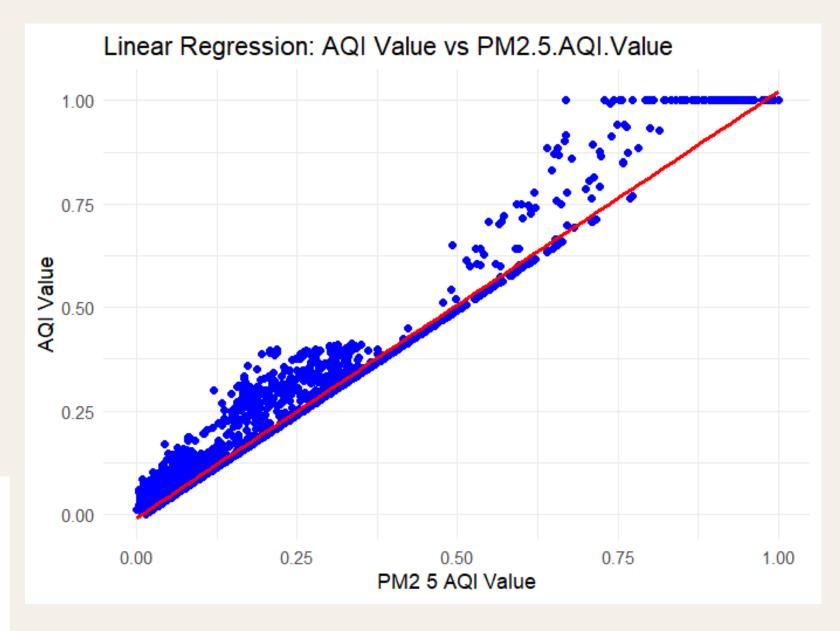
## Further Analysis

## Simple Linear Regression: AQI vs PM2.5.AQI. Value

# Linear Regression: AQI vs PM2.5.AQI.Value linear\_model <- lm(AQI.Value ~ PM2.5.AQI.Value, data = merged\_data\_cleaned)

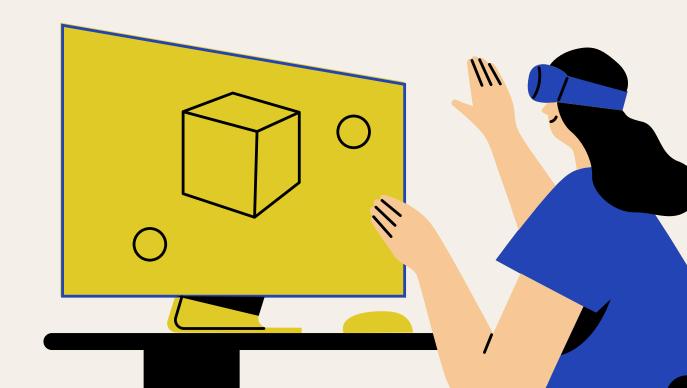
```
Linear Regression Summary:
> summary(linear_model)
Call:
lm(formula = AQI.Value ~ PM2.5.AQI.Value, data = merged_data_cleaned)
Residuals:
     Min
              10 Median
-0.02165 -0.00754 -0.00667 -0.00576 0.32064
Coefficients:
                 Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
               -0.0093419  0.0002554  -36.58  <2e-16 ***
(Intercept)
PM2.5.AQI.Value 1.0309961 0.0013530 762.01 <2e-16 ***
Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' '1
Residual standard error: 0.02108 on 17193 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared: 0.9712, Adjusted R-squared: 0.9712
F-statistic: 5.807e+05 on 1 and 17193 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

```
> cat("Linear Regression RMSE:", linear_rmse, "\n")
Linear Regression RMSE: 0.02108051
> cat("Linear Regression MAE:", linear_mae, "\n")
Linear Regression MAE: 0.01196818
```



## 05 - Tableau

## Access Tableau



## 06 - Conclusion

Our analysis reveals that while vehicle density does not directly impact AQI, PM2.5 is a significant contributor to poor air quality. Addressing PM2.5 emissions is vital and can be achieved by promoting renewable energy, adopting electric vehicles, enhancing urban planning with green spaces and efficient public transport, enforcing stricter industrial regulations, and raising public awareness on reducing pollution. These steps collectively pave the way for a healthier and more sustainable environment.

