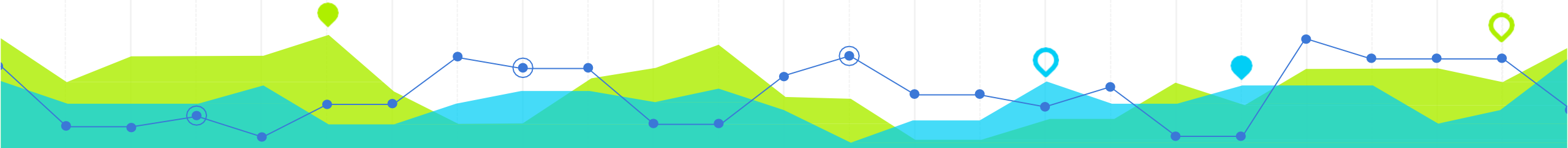
Introduction to Urban Data Science

CRP 4680/5680 Spring 2025



Lecture 2.2 Data Management (I)

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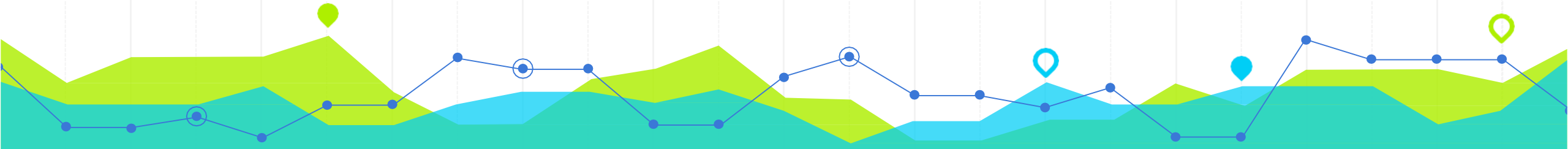
OUTLINE

- Packages (libraries)
- Basics of Pandas



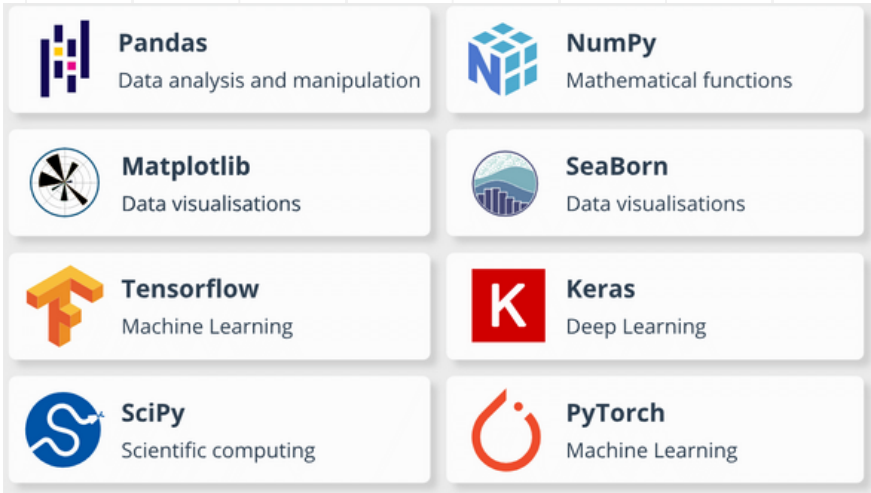
Packages (libraries) 1

Packages (also known as libraries or modules)

- Python's standard library offers read-to-use solutions (functions and methods) to solve common programming problems without additional installation.
  - e.g., functions: print(), len(), range(), etc.

- **External Packages provide additional, specialized functionalities, but often need to be installed separately**

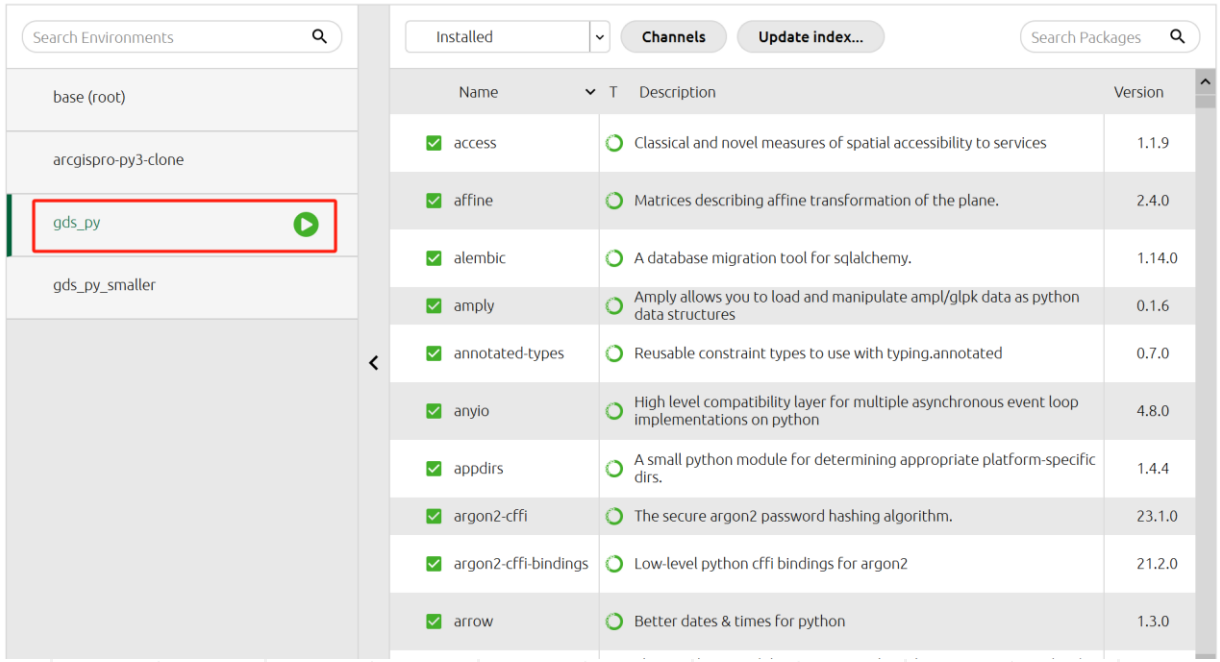
  - Install the package: Use a package manager like pip/conda (e.g., pip install pandas) ← We have completed this step.
  - Import the package: Load it into your script (e.g., import pandas as pd).

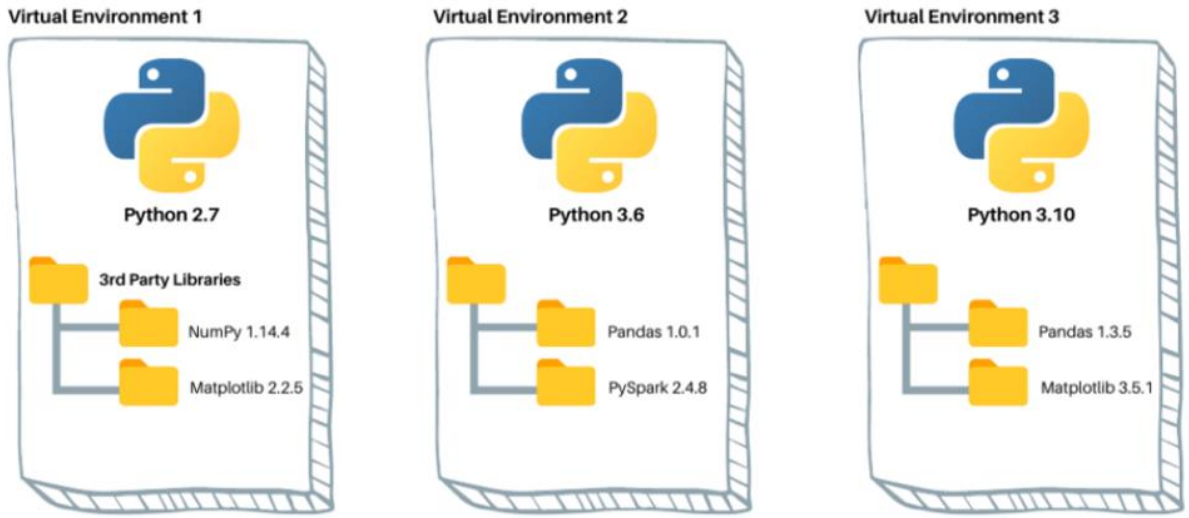


The Python **virtual environment (the gds_py in our case)**

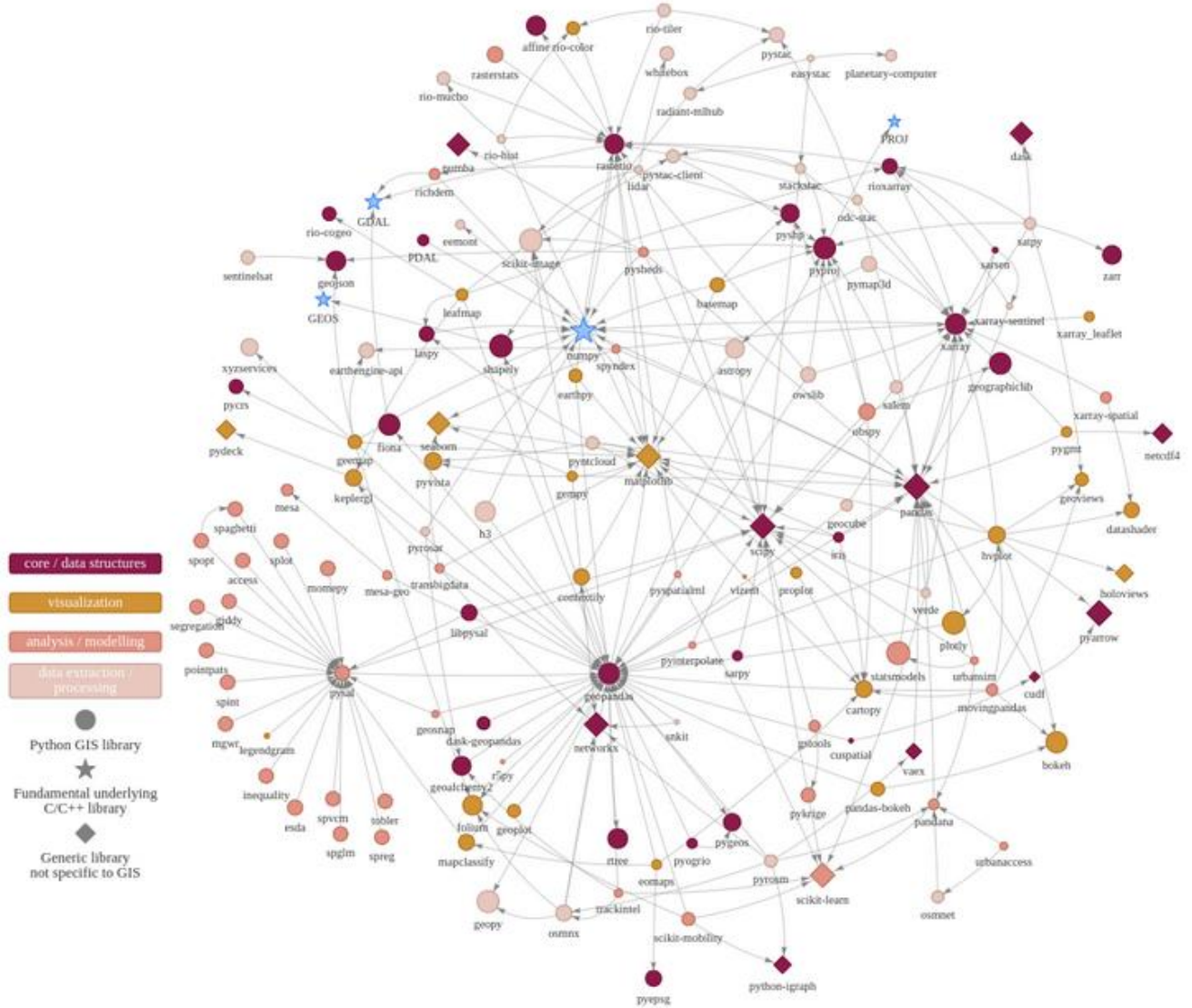
- gds_py: a container providing a fully working Jupyter Lab installation, additionally loaded with a comprehensive list of geospatial python packages.

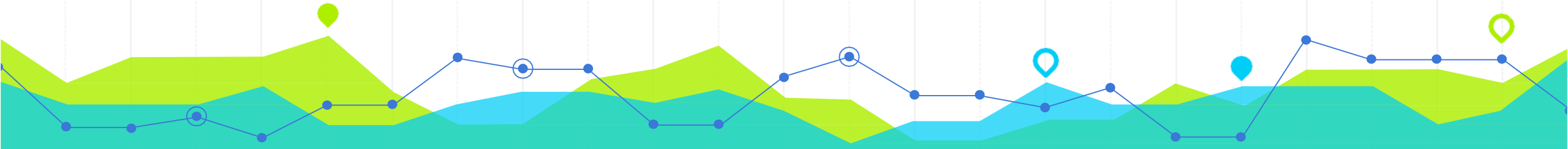
- Virtual environment: a tool for dependency management and project isolation. It allows packages to be installed locally in an isolated directory for a particular project, as opposed to being installed globally.





Python OS Ecosystem for GIS and Earth Observation





Basics of Pandas 2

Pandas?

- Pandas is a tool in Python that allows us to read, write, and manage datasets in a variety of format (e.g., .xlsx, .csv, .pickle) through **Dataframes.**

- **data structures**
  - Data is stored in a structure called a **DataFrame**.
  - A Dataframe is tabular structure with labeled rows and columns—in many ways similar to Excel or Google Spreadsheets.
  - It supports operations like arithmetic, col/rows selection, filtering, and grouping, etc.

- Pandas is built on top of
  - Numpy: multi-dimensional arrays and scientific computing
  - Matplotlib: plotting
  - Python Standard library

Pandas?

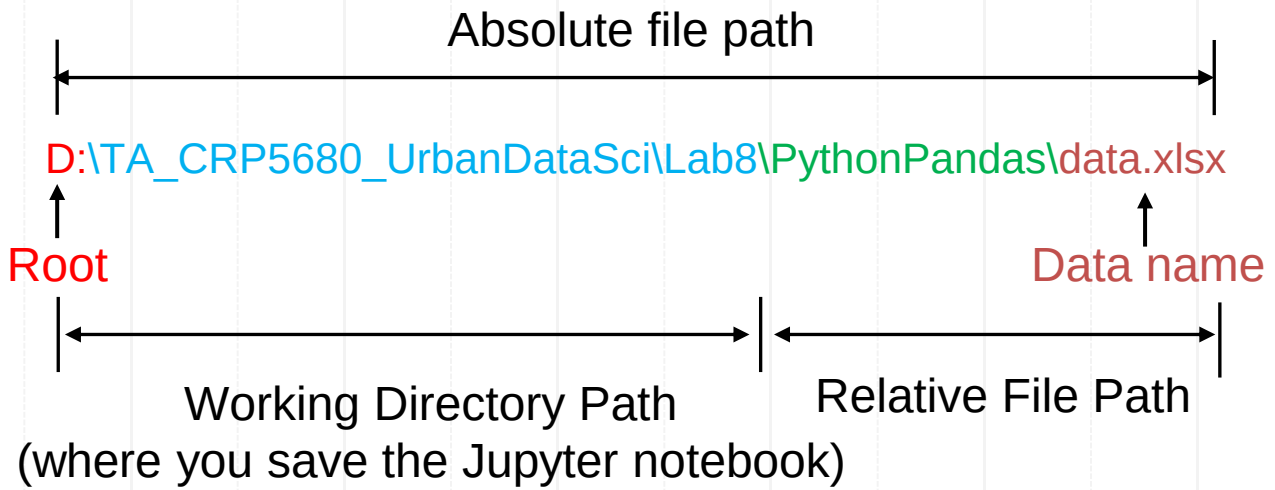
- Pandas provides two new data types—Series and Dataframe.
  - ***Dataframe****:* A tabular structure with three key components: **columns, rows, and an index**.
  - ***Series:*** A one-dimensional array, representing a single column of data. You can think of Series objects as fancier versions of list.

Importing and exporting dataset in Pandas

- Pandas can import and export dataset in many data formats.
  - To read (import) a file (e.g., .csv, .xlsx) from a folder and present it as a DataFrame in Python.
    - `df = pd.read_excel('<file Path>/data.xlsx')`
  - To write (export) a DataFrame to a specific file (e.g., .xlsx) using Pandas.
    - `df.to_excel('<file path>/data.xlsx')`
  - Pandas also supports reading and writing other formats, like .json, .html, .pickle. Check here all the data format Pandas can read.

File Path?

- How to read a file path in Pandas?
  - **We can always use an absolute file path—**file path that starts from the root of the file system.



  - **We can use a relative file path**
    - an incomplete file path that is joined to your **current working directory** to create an absolute file path.
    - **the relative path = the absolute path - the current working directory**

File Path in Pandas

Note: we cannot use backslashes (`\`) alone to construct file path because backslashes (`\`) are treated as escape characters in Python strings

- Three Ways to Import a File in Python

1. Use a raw string by adding an `r` in front of the file path:
   ```
   df = pd.read_csv(r"C:\Users\Documents\data.csv")
   ```
2. Replace backslashes () with double backslashes (\):
   ```
   df = pd.read_csv("C:\\Users\\Documents\\data.csv")
   ```
3. Replace backslashes () with forward slashes (/):
   ```
   df = pd.read_csv("C:/Users/Documents/data.csv")
   ```

Pandas built-in functions

See codebook

- df.head(5) — check out the top five rows
- df.tail(5) — check the last five rows
- df.shape — explore the shape (dimensions) of the Dataframe. How many rows and how many columns?

- df.columns
  - print out column names
  - returns a Pandas object rather than a list
  - convert to a list: list(df.columns)

Indexing and Slicing a Dataframe

how to select a subset of a Dataframe?

- ***Indexing***: simply selecting a particular row or column from a Dataframe.
- ***Slicing*****:** Selecting a subset of rows and columns.

- Three ways of selecting particular rows and columns of a Dataframe
  - df[ ]: Basic indexing, primarily used for selecting columns.
  - df.loc[rows_***label*** , columns_***label***]: Select rows and columns by their labels.
  - df.iloc[row_***position*** , column_***position***]: Select rows and columns by their numerical positions.

- A ***label***: one name in the column list or an index in the row index (the column at far left).
- A ***position***: the corresponding position of column name or index in a sequence, starting from zero.

Label and Position

df

Row Positions	Row index (Labels)	HouseID	CommunityID	TotalPrice	TransYear	Bedroom	Livingroom	Bathroom	Size	FloorLevel	WinSouth	...
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Column Positions
0	0	BJCP85139027	1735	2080032.42	2012	3	2	2	124.62	3	1	...
1	1	BJCY84814525	2023	1440023.27	2012	1	1	1	48.37	4	1	...
2	2	BJHD61617745									1	...
3	3	BJCY00382544									1	...
4	4	BJCY84554915									1	...

Column names (Labels)

Task: select the first 2 rows and the first 2 columns

`df.loc[ , ]`

row Labels, col Labels

`df.loc[ 0:1 , [ 'HouseID' , 'CommunityID' ]]`

`df.iloc[ , ]`

row Positions, col Positions

`df.iloc[ 0:2 , 0:2 ]`

Filtering DataFrames

- how to filter rows from a DataFrame based on a condition

Goal: to filter out rows where the column Dist2Subway is less than or equal to 1500

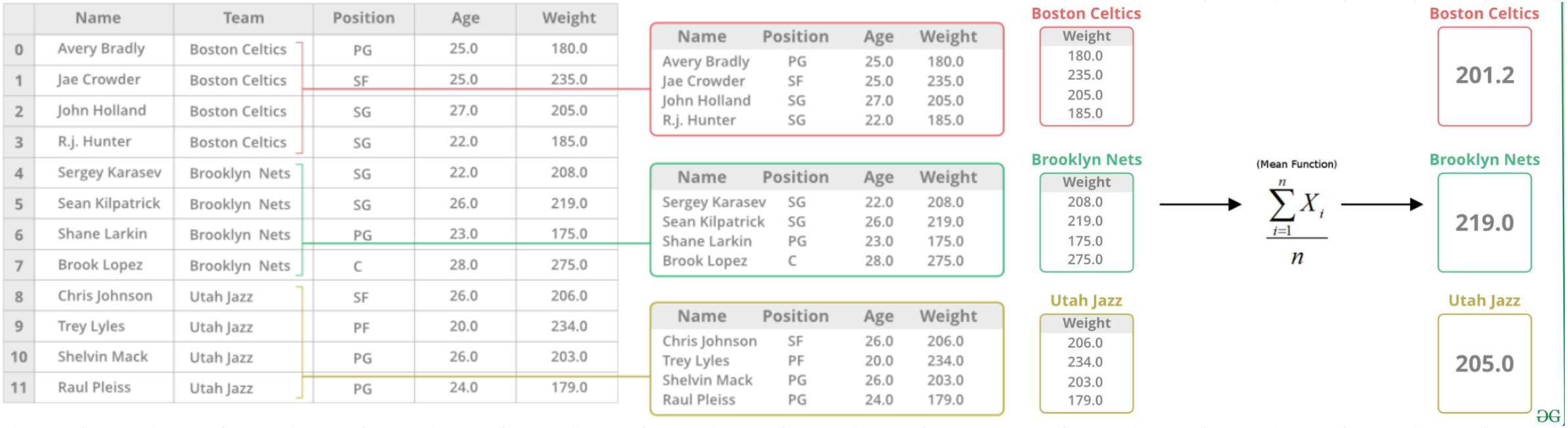
```
df_2012["Dist2Subway"] <= 1500
```

```
0        True
1       False
2        True
3        True
4        True
        ...
```

- `df[df["Dist2Subway"] <= 1500]`:
  - step1, `df["Dist2Subway"] <= 1500` return a series with values of ***False*** or ***True*** (boolean type);
  - step2, it is enclosed by `df.loc[]` and can return a subset of the candidate rows
  - step3, assign the returned DataFrame to a new dataframe called `df_subway`

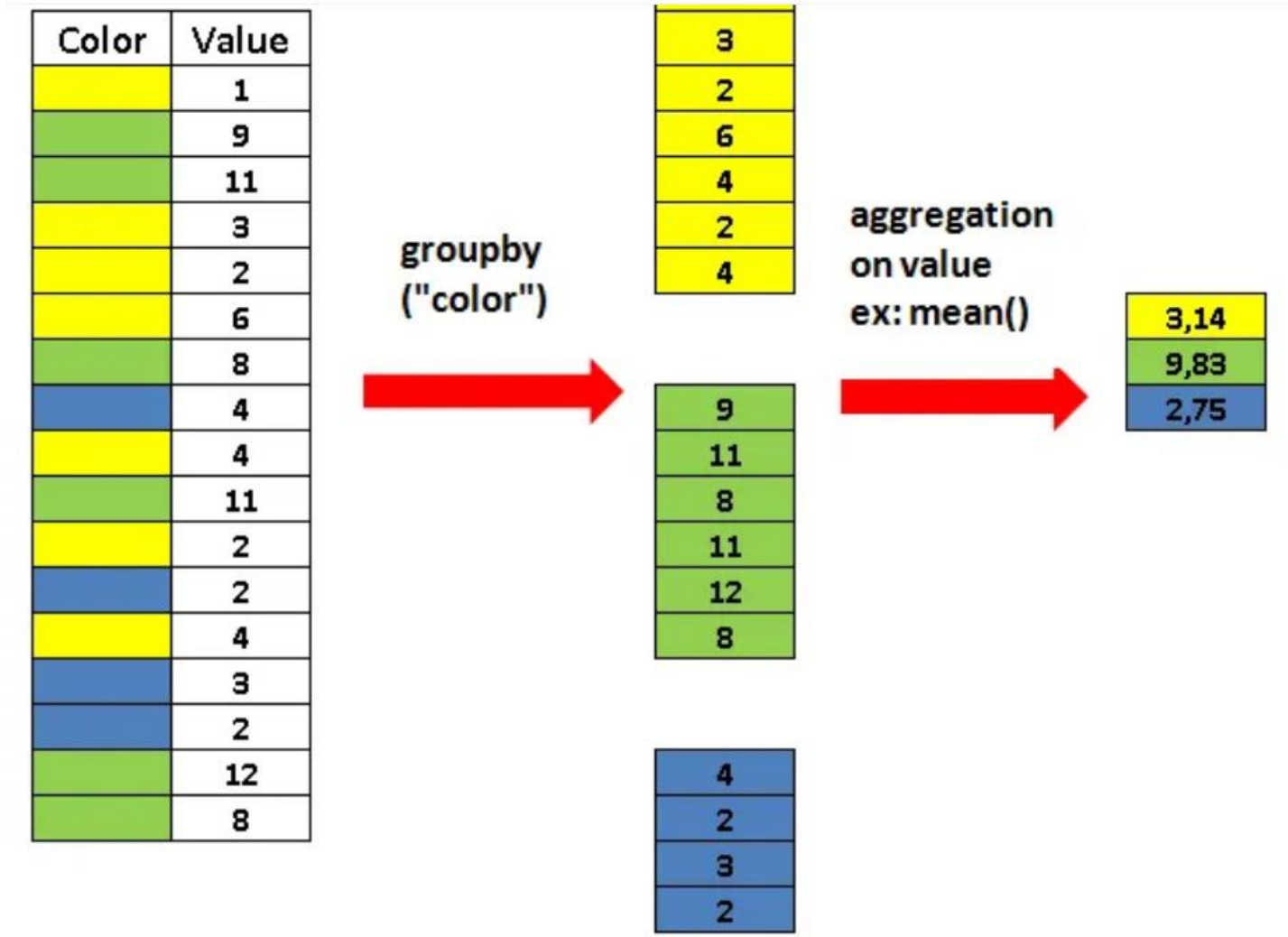
df.groupby()

The df.**groupby()** function allows us to group data based on specific column(s) and then apply aggregate functions like mean, sum, count, etc., to analyze grouped subsets.



df.groupby()

- `pd.groupby()`
  - similar to the pivotal table in Excel
  - involves three main steps
    - Splitting: Divides the DataFrame into groups based on a column.
    - Applying: Applies a function (e.g., mean, sum) to each group.
    - Combining: Combines the results into a new table.
  - In our case
    - Split the DataFrame by Sublevel (distance categories to subway).
    - Apply a function (e.g., mean()) to calculate the average price.
    - Combine the grouped results to form a summary table.-
  - Notice that `pd.groupby()` does not return a DataFrame
    - we need to use a function, e.g., sum(), mean(), or apply() to make the return a DataFrame.



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