

# Web Scraping Project

## Autotrader.ca



Zack Chen / Jack Hu  
Oct 20th, 2020

# Overview

- Motivation
- Website
- Web Scraping
- Data Cleaning
- Stats/Trend with Data Visualization
- Challenges
- What's next

# Motivations

A great place to find out used car's information

- The largest online automotive advertising website in Canada
- Over 130,000 listings for both new and used cars
- Detailed and comparable information for each listing

After web scraping class - How about build an app to notify me a great deal

After Pandas class - What insight can we find out in the market

# Website

- Search filters:
  - Location: Ontario
  - Condition: Used
  - Year: >2013

The screenshot shows the Orillia Mazda website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like 'Cars, Trucks & SUVs', 'Commercial / Heavy Trucks', 'Trailers', 'RVs', 'Boats', 'Watercraft', 'Bikes & ATVs', 'Snowmobiles', 'Heavy Equipment', and 'Farm'. Below this is a red banner with 'AUTO TRADER.ca' and 'Sell My Car' button. A large advertisement for a '2018 Mazda CX-5 GT - HEATED SEATS & STEERING - NAV - SUNROOF - BAC' is featured, priced at \$31,995. The main content area shows a red Mazda CX-5 parked in front of the Orillia Mazda dealership. Contact information for Orillia Mazda is provided, including the phone number 1-888-476-9098 and a map link. A '12-Week Coding Bootcamp' is also advertised.

The screenshot shows the AutoTrader.ca website search results for '2013 and newer Cars for sale in Ontario'. The search filters on the left include: Location: Ontario, Distance: Province, Condition: Used, Seller Type: Dealer, Make: Any, Model: Any, Contactless Services: Yes, Trim: BETA, Year: > 2013. The search results show two listings. The first listing is a 2016 Audi S3 with 112,000 km, priced at \$27,990, which is \$1,344 above market. The second listing is a 2019 Volkswagen Tiguan 2.0T Highline R-Line 4Motion, 1 owner, priced at \$36,985, which is \$132 below market. Both listings include images of the cars, their specifications, and contact information for the dealers.

# Data Scraping Code

## Web Scraping

1. Selenium/BS4
2. Went through pages of listings and scraped the url of each listing
3. Used selenium to open each url and scraped detailed listing information
4. Formed scraped listing information into DataFrame and saved to disk(.csv) in partitions to prevent data loss

```
#create a new list for urls
all_urls=[]
#run through pages
for x in tqdm_notebook(range(180,240)):
    driver = webdriver.Chrome('./chromedriver.exe')

    #go to page x and get html
    driver.get(f'https://www.autotrader.ca/cars/on/?rcp=100&rcs={x*100-100}&srt=9&yRng=2013%2C&prx=-2&prv=Ontario&loc=ontario&hp=')
    html=driver.page_source
    main_soup = BeautifulSoup(html,'lxml')

    #get all listing cards from current page
    listing_details =main_soup.find_all("a",class_='result-title click')

    #get url from each listing card
    for x in listing_details:
        href=x['href']
        #format the url
        website=f'https://www.autotrader.ca/{href}'
        all_urls.append(website)

    #close chrome driver to to avoid being banned
    driver.close()
```

```
all_car_info=[]
driver = webdriver.Chrome('./chromedriver.exe')

for url in tqdm_notebook(all_urls):
    driver.get(url)
    time.sleep(0.5)
    single_car_html=driver.page_source
    single_car_soup = BeautifulSoup(single_car_html,'lxml')
    |
    try:
        ad_ids = url.split('/')[9].split('_')[1]
    except:
        ad_ids = 'missing'
    try:
        years = single_car_soup.find('p',class_='hero-title').get_text().split(' ')[0]
    except:
        years = 'missing'
    try:
        makes = single_car_soup.find('p',class_='hero-title').get_text().split(' ')[1]
    except:
        makes = 'missing'
```

```
all_car_info.append({'year':years,
                    'make':makes,
                    'model':models,
                    'adid':ad_ids,
                    'price':prices,
                    'mileage':mileages,
                    'location':locations,
                    'transmission':transmission,
                    'drivetrain':drivetrain,
                    'body_type':body_type,
                    'colour':colour,
                    'fuel_type':fuel_type,
                    'fuel_economy':fuel_economy,
                    'price_delta':price_deltas,
                    'more_less':moreless
                    })

#Build a DataFrame
df_scraped = pd.DataFrame(all_car_info)
#Save the DataFrame to disk when it's done
df_scraped.to_csv('autotrader_scraped_page180-240.csv', encoding='utf-8')
```

# Data Collected

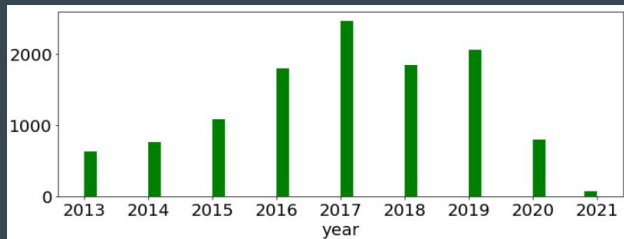
- Columns: 14 Rows: 11686

	year	make	model	adid	price	mileage	location	transmission	drivetrain	body_type	colour	fuel_economy	price_delta	more_less
0	2017	Infiniti	QX30	49667893	24788	34313	Thornhill	Automatic	FWD	Wagon	missing	8.5	1722	ABOVE
1	2014	Mercedes-Benz	C-Class	49666761	17498	82109	Kitchener	Automatic	AWD	Sedan	Black		694	BELOW
2	2016	Honda	Odyssey	49647361	27888	55919	Concord	Automatic	FWD	Minivan	missing	10.6	963	ABOVE
3	2015	Kia	Soul	49676108	13880	81240	Toronto	Automatic	FWD	Hatchback	Grey	9		missing
4	2019	Honda	Civic	49641921	22395	34128	Toronto	Automatic	FWD	Sedan	Black	7.1	847	BELOW
5	2018	Nissan	Rogue	49674691	19999	23000	London	Automatic	FWD	SUV	Black	8.2		missing
6	2013	Dodge	Grand	48850091	11995	63456	ThunderBay	Automatic	FWD	Minivan	Grey	10.3	2328	BELOW
7	2017	Jeep	Grand	49663387	31997	54544	Concord	Automatic	AWD	SUV	Black		3332	ABOVE
8	2016	Nissan	370Z	49674484	20995	50000	Mississauga	Manual	RWD	missing	missing			missing
9	2017	Audi	A4	49658385	22995	81311	Mississauga	Automatic	AWD	Sedan	Black	8.9	2119	BELOW
10	2018	Ford	Fusion	49644966	21995	47447	Mississauga	Automatic	FWD	Sedan	White			missing
11	2014	Nissan	Versa	49676940	7395	106265	Whitby	Automatic	FWD	Hatchback	Silver	6.1	1146	BELOW
12	2016	Chevrolet	Malibu	49646156	14995	83928	Courtice	Automatic	FWD	Sedan	White	7.6	1073	ABOVE
13	2018	Jeep	Grand	49638977	39998	41549	Toronto	Automatic	AWD	SUV	missing	11.3	5650	BELOW
14	2016	Buick	Enclave	49507160	25000	98000	Windsor	Automatic	AWD	SUV	missing	13.7	1540	BELOW
15	2014	Subaru	Impreza	49666158	20995	124000	Toronto	Automatic	AWD	Sedan	missing			missing
16	2014	Honda	Ridgeline	49636802	18488	231511	Oakville	Automatic	AWD	Truck	Black	11.8	17	ABOVE
17	2018	BMW	X1	49634526	36177	20241	Hamilton	Automatic	AWD	Wagon	White	9.3	1755	BELOW
18	2019	Mazda	CX-3	49655011	24997	31000	Guelph	Automatic	AWD	Wagon	Blue	8.1	3193	BELOW
19	2016	Chevrolet	Cruze	49666838	12995	55000	Midland	Automatic	FWD	Sedan	Blue		1127	BELOW
20	2013	Kia	Optima	49654784	12995	124100	London	Automatic	FWD	Sedan	Black	7.3	95	BELOW
21	2015	Toyota	RAV4	49648079	21995	82942	Toronto	Automatic	AWD	missing	Grey	9.6	218	BELOW
22	2013	Toyota	Prius	49635226	17788	83295	Orleans	Automatic	FWD	Hatchback	White	4.5		missing
23	2018	Nissan	Murano	49633303	33888	49069	Brantford	Automatic	AWD	Wagon	White	9.9	2391	ABOVE
24	2015	Mazda	Mazda6	49642051	10995	134052	Belleville	Automatic	FWD	Sedan	Silver	7.8	520	ABOVE
25	2014	Fiat		500 49636020	9500	137000	Mississauga	Automatic	missing	Wagon	Grey		98	ABOVE
26	2018	Audi	A5	49649232	36288	64649	Ottawa	Automatic	AWD	Hatchback	missing	8.7	2526	BELOW
27	2019	Kia	Soul	49636618	16995	47947	Brantford	Automatic	FWD	Wagon	White	8.7		missing

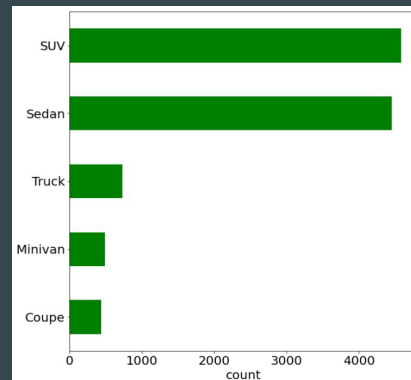
# Understanding the market

# Used Car Market Overview

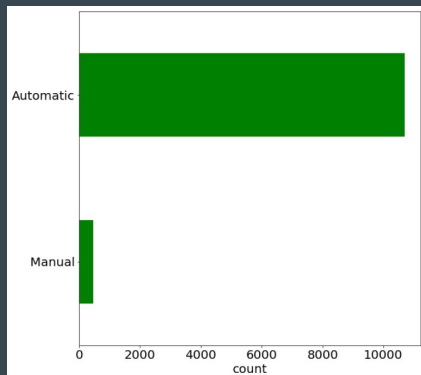
## By Year



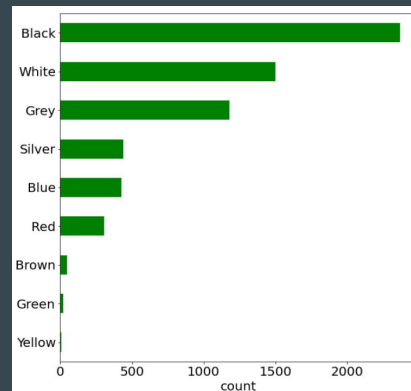
## By Body Type



## By Transmission



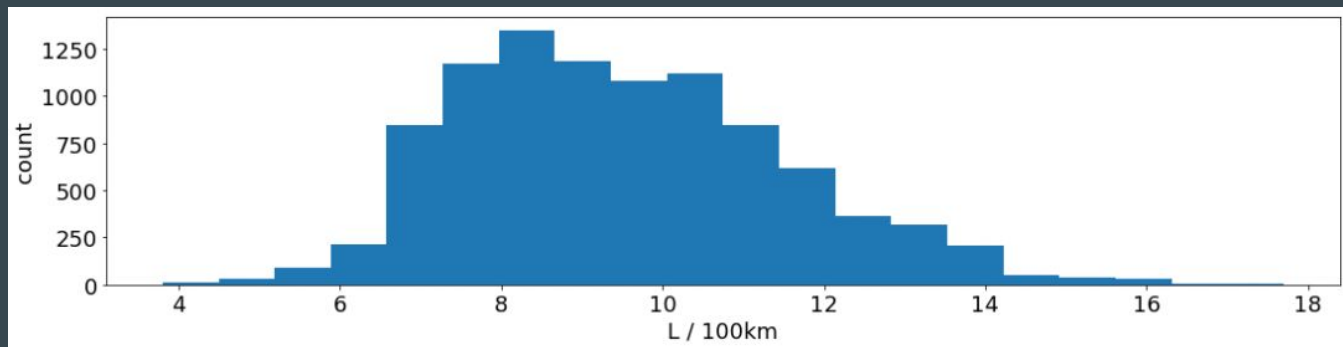
## By Colors



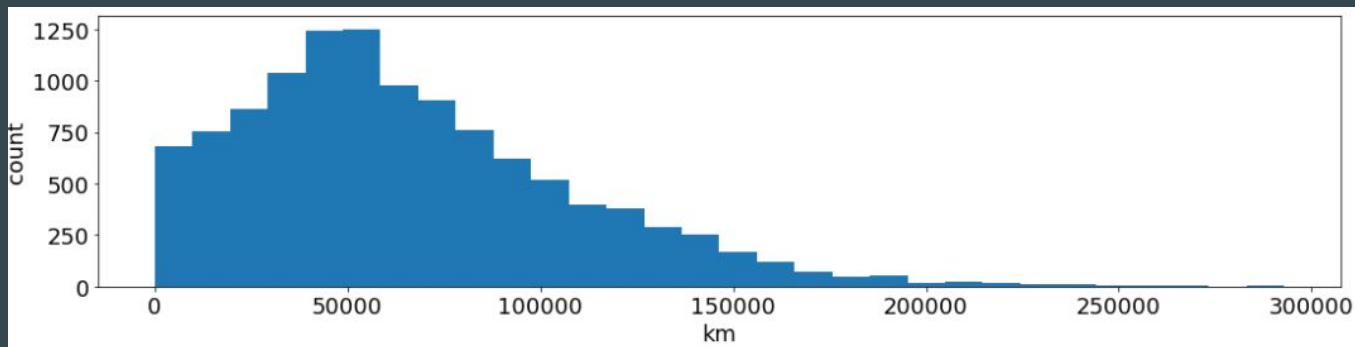


# Used Car Market Overview

By Combined  
Fuel Economy

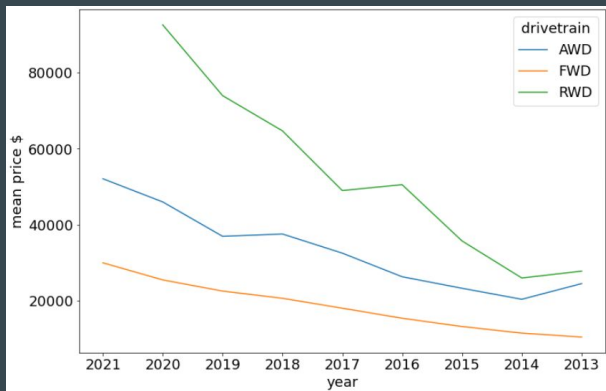


By Mileage

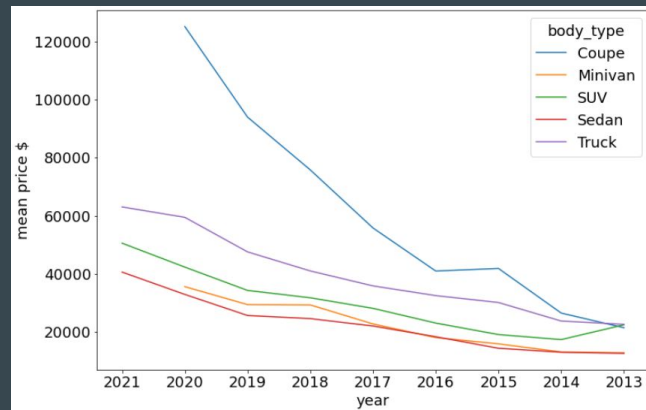


# Mean Price vs. Year

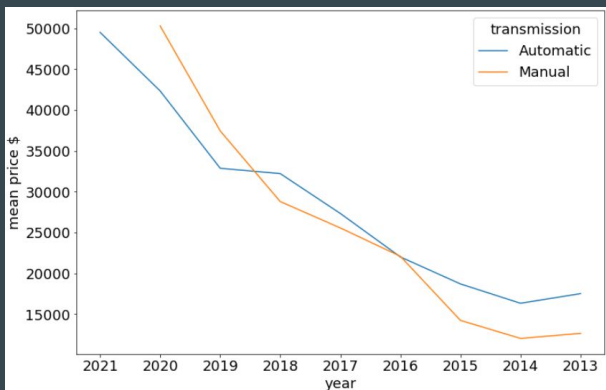
## By Drivetrain



## By Body Type

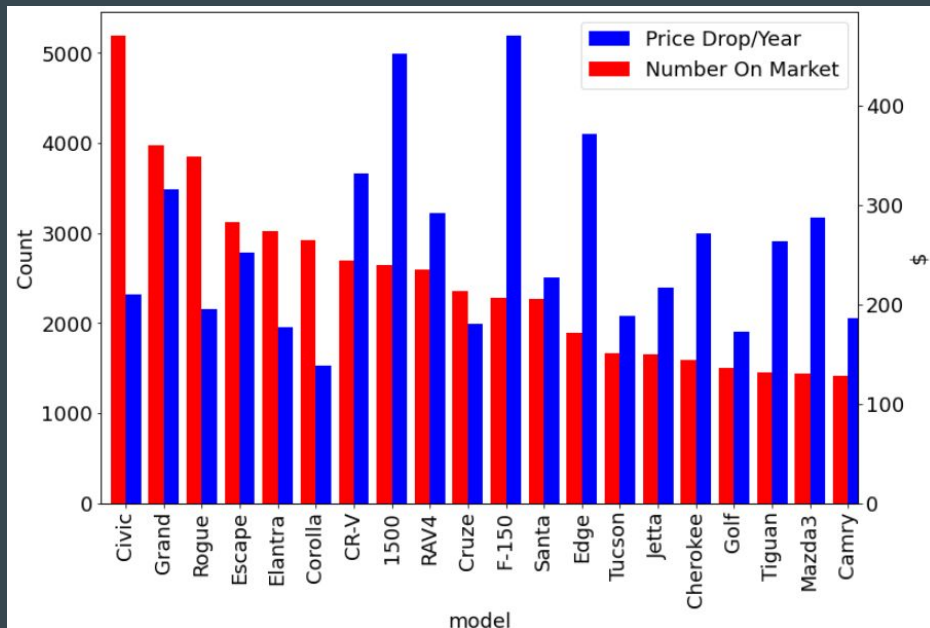


## By Transmission



# Depreciation Rate Among Popular Models

## By Year



Best Cars That Hold Their Value:

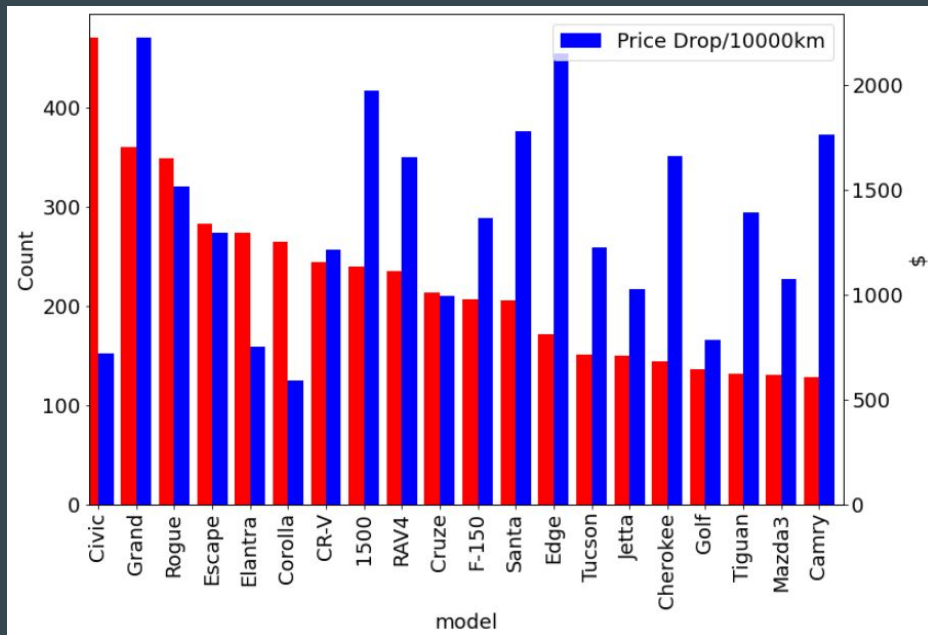
1. Toyota Corolla
2. Volkswagen Golf
3. Hyundai Elantra

Worst Cars At Holding Their Value:

4. Ford F-150
5. Ram 1500
6. Ford Edge

# Depreciation Rate Among Popular Models

## By Mileage



Best Cars That Hold Their Value:

1. Toyota Corolla
2. Honda Civic
3. Hyundai Elantra

Worst Cars At Holding Their Value:

4. Dodge Caravan
5. Ford Edge
6. Ram 1500

# Most Models Being Sold

ranking	1.0	2.0	3.0
location			
Brampton	Civic	Jetta	Rogue
Brantford	Rogue	Cruze	Corolla
Burlington	Santa	Grand	Rogue
Guelph	Fusion	Santa	Tucson
Hamilton	Elantra	1500	Tucson
Kingston	Escape	F-150	Cherokee
Kitchener	Elantra	Civic	Corolla
London	Civic	Escape	Corolla
Markham	Civic	RAV4	S60
Mississauga	Elantra	Rogue	Civic
NorthYork	Rover	Corolla	Rogue
Oakville	Grand	Civic	Rover
Ottawa	Grand	Elantra	Rogue
Scarborough	Civic	Grand	RAV4
St.Catharines	Civic	RAV4	Silverado
Thornhill	S60	Civic	CR-V
Toronto	Civic	CR-V	Corolla
Vaughan	Rover	Rogue	C-Class
Whitby	Civic	CR-V	Grand
Windsor	Rogue	Cruze	Escape

## Interesting Finding

- A Volvo dealership is selling lots of used 2019/2020 S60 model

[←](#)
2020 Volvo S60 T6 AWD Momentum  
9,660 km | Thornhill | View CARFAX History Report

[Get Price Alerts](#)

**\$43,880**  
+ TAXES & LICENSING

**VOLVO VILLA**  
220 Steeles Avenue West, Thornhill, ON L4J 1A1

**JUST ARRIVED**  
CALL US FOR DETAILS

[Book An Appointment](#)

**VOLVO VILLA**

**888-509-2823**

[View map](#)

[Visit Dealer website](#)

**2020 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE**  
GET 15% OFF MSRP\*\*  
FOR UP TO \$10,000  
IN TOTAL DISCOUNTS

[EXPLORE DEALS](#)

GENERAL INQUIRY
BOOK AN APPOINTMENT
MAKE AN OFFER

Name

Email

# Price Comment

	adid	year	make	model	price	price_delta	more_less
0	49667893	2017.0	Infiniti	QX30	24788.0	1722	ABOVE
1	49666761	2014.0	Mercedes-Benz	C-Class	17498.0	694	BELOW
2	49647361	2016.0	Honda	Odyssey	27888.0	963	ABOVE
3	49676108	2015.0	Kia	Soul	13880.0	0	missing
4	49641921	2019.0	Honda	Civic	22395.0	847	BELOW
5	49674691	2018.0	Nissan	Rogue	19999.0	0	missing



```
# use .loc[] to loop through all the rows

for i in range(len(data)):

    if data.loc[i,'more_less'] == 'BELOW':
        data.loc[i,'price_suggest'] = data.loc[i,'price'] \
            + data.loc[i,'price_delta']
    elif data.loc[i,'more_less'] == 'ABOVE':
        data.loc[i,'price_suggest'] = data.loc[i,'price'] \
            - data.loc[i,'price_delta']
    else:
        data.loc[i,'price_suggest'] = 'missing'
```



```
## Create column ['price_ratio'] for further calculation
for i in range(len(data)):
    if data.loc[i,'price_suggest'] == 'missing':
        data.loc[i,'price_ratio'] = 0
    else:
        data.loc[i,'price_ratio'] = (data.loc[i,'price']\
            /data.loc[i,'price_suggest']).round(2)
```

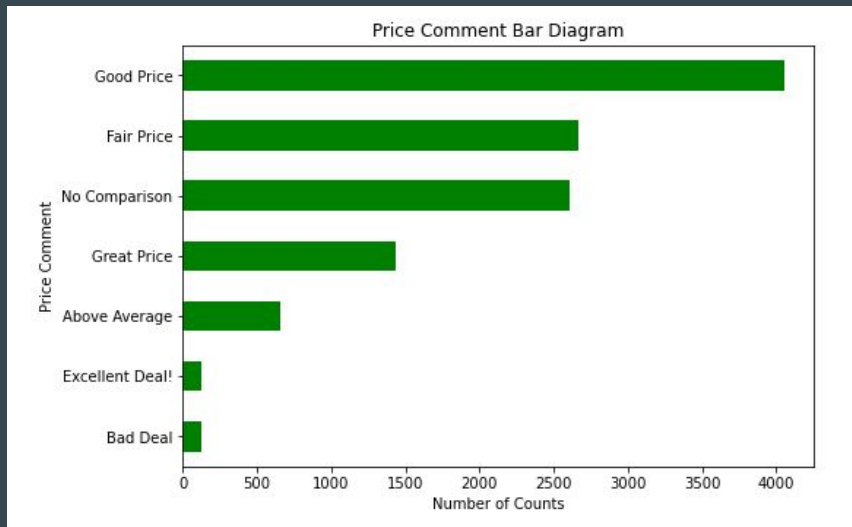


```
## Create column ['price_comment'] based on the ['price_ratio']

# create a List of conditions
conditions_pr = [
    (data['price_ratio'] < 0.8)& (data['price_ratio'] > 0),
    (data['price_ratio'] < 0.9) & (data['price_ratio'] >= 0.75),
    (data['price_ratio'] < 1 ) & (data['price_ratio'] >= 0.9),
    (data['price_ratio'] < 1.1) & (data['price_ratio'] >= 1),
    (data['price_ratio'] < 1.17) & (data['price_ratio'] >=1.1),
    (data['price_ratio'] >= 1.17 ),
    (data['price_ratio'] == 0)
]

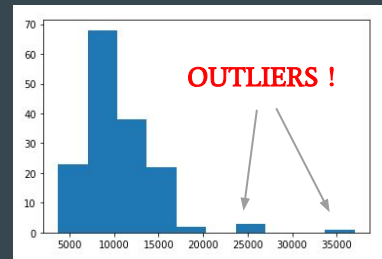
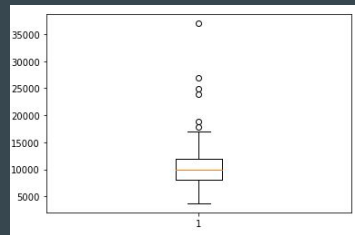
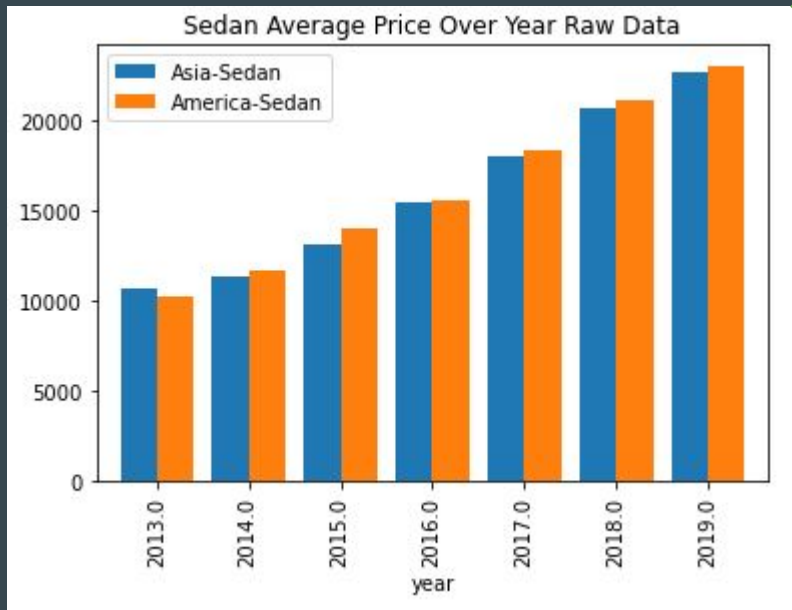
# create a List of comment
values_comment = ['Excellent Deal!','Great Price','Good Price',\
    'Fair Price','Above Average','Bad Deal','No Comparison']

data['price_comment'] = np.select(conditions_pr,values_comment)
```



# Sedan Segment Investigation

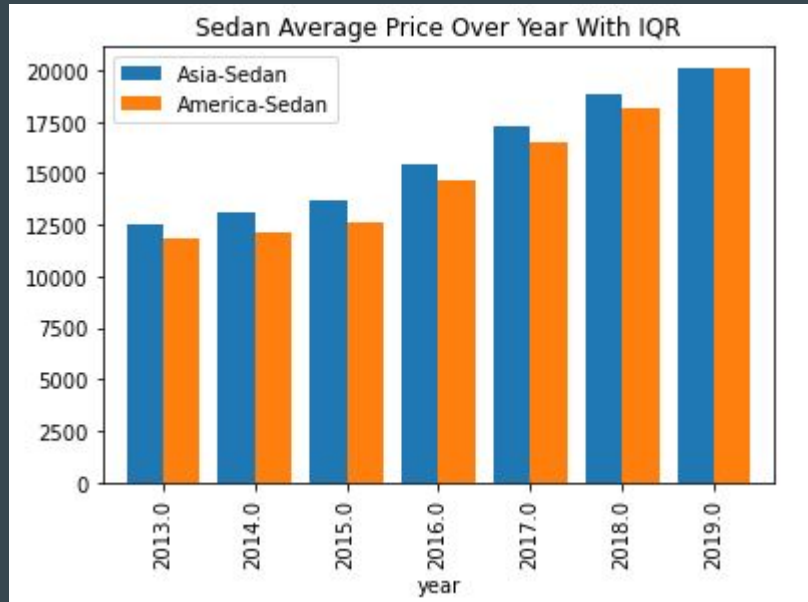
Have over 3,500 lists/rows falls under these two categories  
BUT no clear trend observed ?! WHY ?!



```
## functions to remove outliers with IQR
def outlier_filter(df, q =0.05):
    upper = df.quantile(1-q)
    lower = df.quantile(q)
    mask = (df < upper) & (df > lower)
    return mask
```



# Sedan Segment Investigation Continued

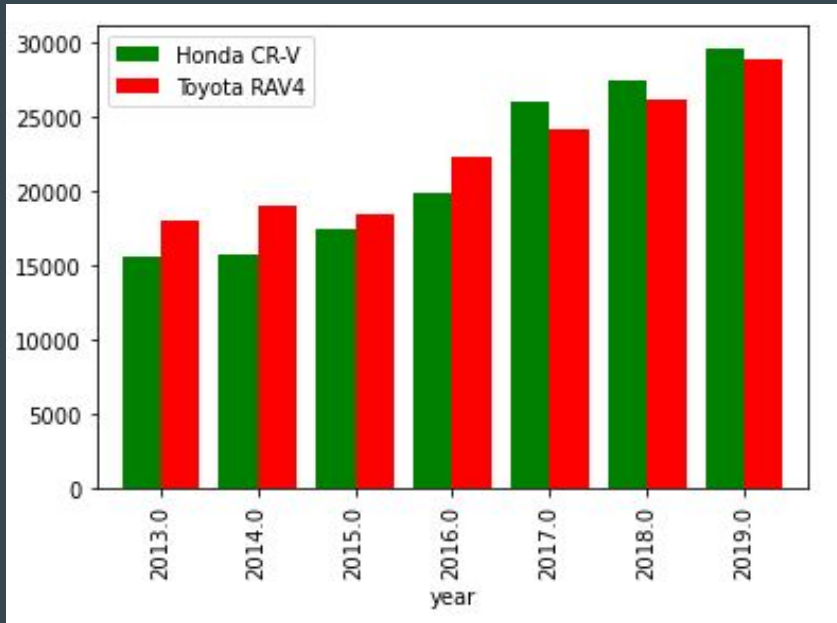


The Trend now is MUCH clear!!

- Both segments starts off very closely
- Japanese/Korean car retains much value over the time
- The max price difference appears at 2015(5 year-old car)
- The older the car gets, the less price difference among the two segments



# SUV Segment Investigation - Showcase CR-V vs. RAV4



## The Trend

- CR-V retains better value than RAV4 between 2017 - 2019
- BIG price dip for CR-V in 2016 models. WHY?
- RAV4 retains better value than CR-V between 2013 - 2016
- Two of the best models on retaining its values

# Challenges

## BS4 & Selenium

- Bypass the bot
- Automation & progress tracking

## Data Munging

- Data type convert and fillna() with what value
- Effectively loop through the entire dataframe ( iterrow() vs. np.select vs. iloc[] )

## Find out what data is try to tell us

- First what features to create to gain more insight
- Outlier
- You actually need understand the market to know where to look

# What is NEXT?

- ❑ Scrap more data!
- ❑ Develop an user interactive front-end app
- ❑ Find out more insight with more data accumulated over the time
- ❑ Develop some machine learning model to help us predict any used car market worth
- ❑ Get better at Data Science :)