Univariate visualization - interval and ratio variables

A bit of statistics

Categorical variables

Cardinal (interval and ratio) variables

Counts (frequencies)

- Relative (percentage)
- Absolute (number as such)

Too many different values

• Problems with showing just counts

What can be good quantity to show

- Central value : Average, Median
- Variation: standard deviation
- Other descriptive statistics: minimum, maximum

Average

- The "geographical centre" of data
- sum of distances to lower values = sum of distances to higher values
- movie rating 0-100 points
- Red dots: users evaluation
- Green dot: average value



Median

- Value standing in the middle
- Half of data are lower, half higher

0	10	20	30	40			50		60		70			80			90				100
0	11		31	43	45	48	5	53 56 57	59 60 61 62 63	65 66 67 68	71	73 74 75	77	80	83	86		92	95 96	98	100
1	2		3	4	5	6		7 8 9	10 11 12 13 14	15 16 17 18	19	20 21 22	23	24	25	26		27	28 29	30	31
										1 2	3	4 5 6	7	8	9	10		11	12 13	14	15

Relation between mean and median



$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (X - \mu)^2}{N}}$$

- X The Value in the data distribution
- μ The population Mean
- N Total Number of Observations

Standard deviation

- How far are data from average
- Average speed 50 KMpH (30 miles)
 - Because the car went whole time exactly 50 (sd=0)
 - Because car went half of journey 30 and other half 70 (sd=20)
 - Because car spent one hour in traffic jam and half hour went 150 (sd=70)
- higher deviation means higher variance

Other descriptive stats



Minimum, maximum (+ range)

World records, temperatures,



Quartiles

Way how to group values



Gini and variation coef.

Measures of concentration

Histogram



How to make histogram

- No need for any computation!
- Select column and click on histogram









Highlighting mean

- =AVERAGE(*column*)
- = MEDIAN(column)
- Change of color mave to be done manually



Box plot



- Avoid the usage of 3D versions
 - They can be very misleading

• Be carefull with ratio aspect



- Always make titles, subtitles and labels as parsimonous as possible
 - (parsimony means to be maximally simplistics and maximally informative simultaneously)