

Big Data: Data Analysis Boot Camp

What is Data Analysis (DA)?

Chuck Cartledge, PhD

19 January 2018

Table of contents (1 of 1)

- 1 Intro.
- 2 What is EDA?
 - Overview and ideas
- 3 What is Data Analysis?
 - General thoughts and ideas
- 4 Q & A
- 5 Conclusion
- 6 References
- 7 Scripts
- 8 Files

What are we going to cover?

We're going to talk about:

- What is exploratory data analysis (EDA)?
- How data analysis (DA) can lead us to new insights



In the beginning ...

Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) is looking at data without preconceived ideas or a desire to fit the data to an existing form. EDA is the first step in data analysis

What are the objectives of EDA?[5]

The objectives of EDA include:

- Uncovering underlying structure and identifying trends and patterns;
- Extracting important variables;
- Detecting outliers and anomalies;
- Testing underlying assumptions;
- Developing statistical models.

We are looking to “understand” the data.

How do we get there?[5]

The practice of EDA emphasizes looking at data in different ways through:

- Computing and tabulating basic descriptors of data properties such as ranges, means, and variances;
- Generating graphics, such as boxplots, histograms, scatter plots;
- Applying transformations, such as log or rank;
- Comparing observations to statistical models, such as the QQ-plot, or regression;
- Identifying underlying structure through clustering;
- Simplifying data through dimension reduction ...

... with the final goal of defining a statistical model and using the model for hypothesis testing and prediction.

What does EDA supply?

Statistical techniques to:

- Tabulate,
- Summarize,
- Display,
- Reduce data

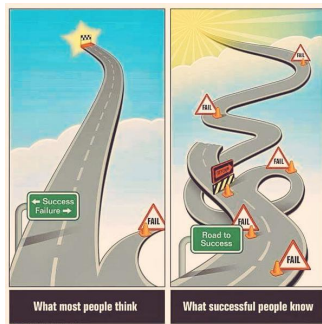
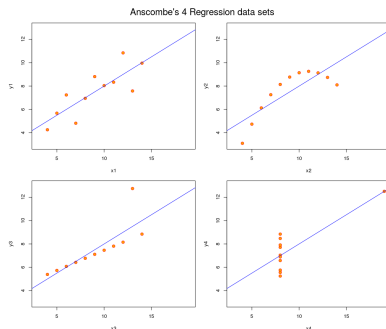


Image from [2].

After we explore, we can settle down and really analyze data.

Anscombe's data[1]

Why it is important to look at data in different ways (EDA). A single way/tool/technique can be deceptive.



Each plot fits the linear equation: $y = 3 + 0.5x$
(Load attached file.)

About data analysis?[4]

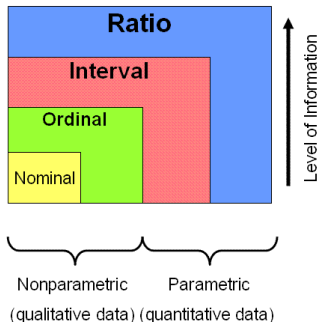
It takes creativity:

- DA can't be done mechanically
- Often there has to be a “creative” element
- Conventional DA is in a sense idealistic
- Trade-off between “ideal” experimentation vs. ecological validity
- Sometimes questions are tentative

We need data analysis skills that allow data to speak to us despite our expectation.

We are interested in different types of numbers.

- Categorical (Qualitative)[6]
 - Nominal – values are just different
 - Ordinal – values can order objects
- Numerical (Quantitative)
 - Interval – differences between values are important
 - Ratio – differences and ratios are important



***Nonparametric statistics may be used to analyze interval and ratio data measurements.**

Image from [3].

How can we deal with these data types?

Types of applicable statistical tests:

	Parametric	Non-parametric	
Number of groups	Interval/Ratio	Level of measurement	
		Nominal	Ordinal
One group	Z-test	One sample Chi-square	Kolmogorov-Smirnov test
	t-test	Binomial test	Runs test
Two group (related samples)	Paired t-test	McNemar test	Wilcoxon Signed Rank test
	Walsh test (interval)		
Two groups (independent samples)	Independent Student t-test	Chi square Test	Mann-Whitney U test
	for equal/unequal variances	(if any cell has expected freq < 5)	Kolmogorov-Smirnov two sample test

Q & A time.

Q: How many existentialists does it take to screw in a light bulb?

A: Two. One to screw it in and one to observe how the light bulb itself symbolizes a single incandescent beacon of subjective reality in a netherworld of endless absurdity reaching out toward a maudlin cosmos of nothingness.



What have we covered?

- Exploratory data analysis (EDA) can be fun
- EDA is about no preconceptions
- EDA lets the data lead us into data analysis (DA)
- DA helps us to understand and explain the data



Next: What is Big Data?

References (1 of 2)

- [1] Francis J Anscombe, Graphs in Statistical Analysis, The American Statistician **27** (1973), no. 1, 17–21.
- [2] Sina H, Road to success, <https://thedailyteacher.com/2016/05/20/the-road-to-success/>, 2016.
- [3] Six Sigma Staff, Data Classification, 2017.
- [4] Warwick Staff, Exploratory Data Analysis, homepages.warwick.ac.uk/~psrex/Lecture%20W6%20EDA.ppt, 2008.
- [5] Boris Steipe, Exploratory Data Analysis of Biological Data using R, <https://bioinformatics.ca/statistics2013module2-ppt>, 2013.

References (2 of 2)

- [6] Pang-Ning Tan, Michael Steinbach, and Vipin Kumar, Introduction to Data Mining, Pearson Education India, 2006.

R script to plot Anscombe's data

```
1 rm(list=ls())
2 require(stats)
3 require(graphics)
4 main <- function()
5 {
6   op <- par(mfrow = c(2, 2), mar = 0.1+c(4,4,1,1), oma = c(0, 0, 2, 0))
7   ff <- y ~ x
8   mods <- setNames(as.list(1:4), paste0("lm", 1:4))
9   for(i in 1:4) {
10     ff[2:3] <- lapply(paste0(c("y", "x"), i), as.name)
11     plot(ff, data = anscombe, col = "red", pch = 21, bg = "orange", cex =
12           1.2, xlim = c(3, 19), ylim = c(3, 13))
13     mods[[i]] <- lmi <- lm(ff, data = anscombe)
14     abline(mods[[i]], col = "blue")
15   }
16   mtext("Anscombe's 4 Regression data sets", outer = TRUE, cex = 1.5)
17   par(op)
18 }
d <- main()
```


Files of interest

- 1 Anscombe's data script

