

# Data Mining

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# Introduction

- Data Mining is the process of finding not obvious (but useful) information from the data
- This information can be found by means of
  - data visualization
  - finding relations between variables
  - building (prediction, classification) models
  - clustering
  - anomaly detection (outliers)
  - pattern recognition

# How to find useful information?

by finding

- relationships between variables
- trends
- outliers

or by

- splitting the data by categories –**stratify**–
- creating new variables from existing ones  
–**feature engineering**–
- excluding not useful existing variables  
–**feature selection**–

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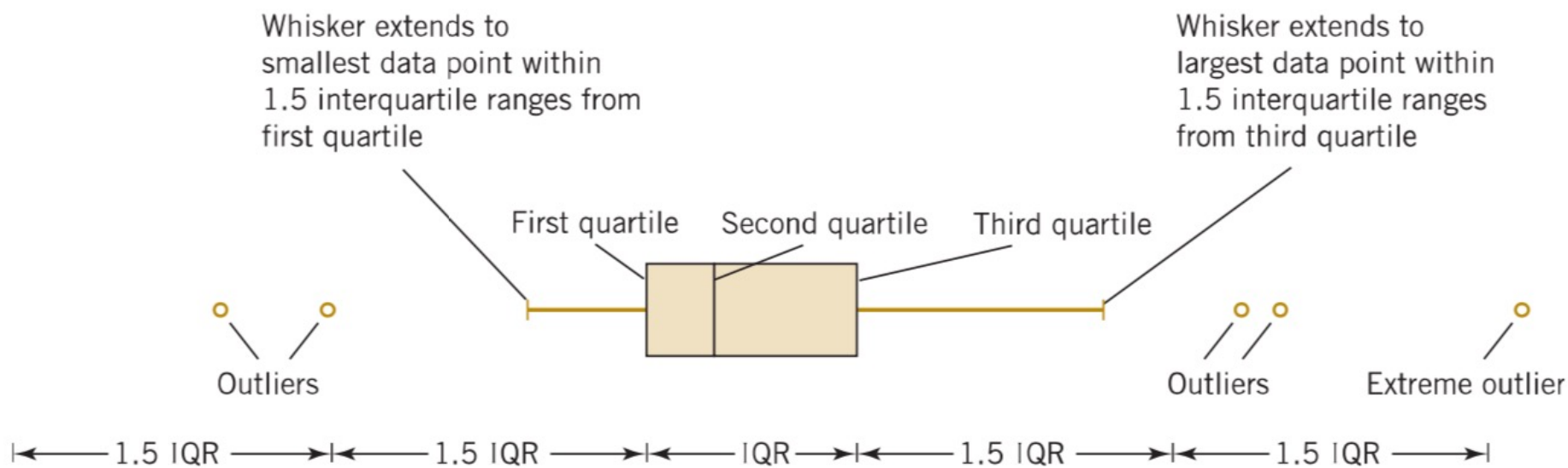
- Add variable  $x_2$  and now the regression line is

$$\hat{y} = 0.934 - 0.25 x_1 + 1.76 x_2$$

What is the relation between  $y$  and  $x_1$ ?

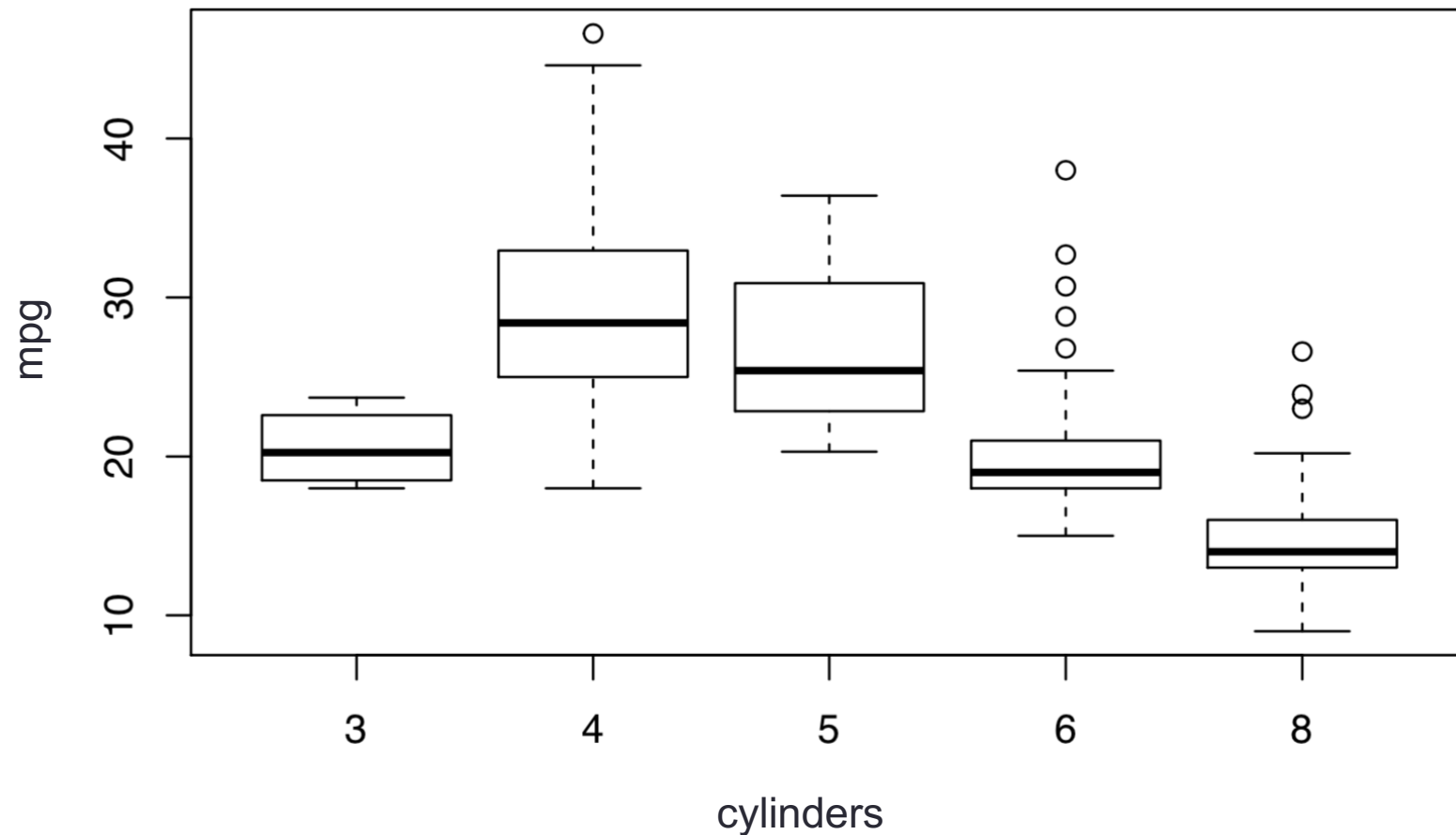
## Box-and-whisker plot (boxplot)

- Graphical display showing key values of a variable distribution
- Key values: Center, spread, symmetry, and outliers
- Useful for comparing same variable on different categories



## Box-and-whisker plot (boxplot)

- Useful for comparing the distribution of a variable on different categories





## Creating new variables

- Combination of variables may be more useful than each individual variable
- For example, in some cases, the difference (of their values) between two predictors may prove more useful than using each one in a model