

Reminder: Course participation is 14% of your grade.

Make good use of TA office hours.

Communicating data science through visualization

CSE481DS Data Science Capstone

Tim Althoff

Due next week

- Midpoint presentation video
 - See [template](#) on website under deliverables
 - 10 min 0 sec max.
- Think of this as a draft of your final project presentation but without major results.
 - We expect that you have completed ca. 50% of the project.
 - We would like to see your data and some initial results.
 - We are asking you to discuss two related papers.
 - Provide a complete picture of your project even if certain key parts have not yet been implemented/analyzed/solved.
- We grade based on the quality, as well as the completion of sections described in the template.
- Reminder: Now is a good time to start planning for your final report writing as well.
 - Midpoint includes briefly highlighting two similar research papers. Start early!
- Reminder: Office hours are a great way to get early feedback and support!

Agenda

1. Visualization in data science
2. Human perception
3. Storytelling with data
4. Visualization design
5. Break + Prototyping
6. Visualization Lab
7. *Visualization for papers*
8. *Bad visualization*
9. *Visualization tools and resources*

Acknowledgements

Contents of this lecture are generously borrowed from:

- UW CSE 512 Data Visualization course slides by Jeff Heer and guest lecturers (Matt Conlen, Michael Correll)
- Tutorial by Marinka Zitnik from Harvard University
- CSE481DS materials by Jina Suh

Visualization in Data Science

What is the role of visualization in data science?

What is data science

Data contains value and knowledge

Data science **extracts knowledge from data**, seeks to discover new knowledge by answering question through data

What is visualization?

Transformation of the symbolic into the geometric

- McCormick et al. 1987

The use of computer-supported, interactive, visual representations of abstract data to **amplify cognition**

- Card, Mackinlay, and Shneiderman 1999

What does visualization do?

Graphics **reveal data**. Indeed graphics can be more precise and revealing than conventional statistical computations.

- Tufte 1983

One great virtue of good graphical representation is that it can serve to **display clearly and effectively a message** carried by quantities whose calculation or observation is far from simple.

- Tukey and Wilk 1965

Superpower of visualization

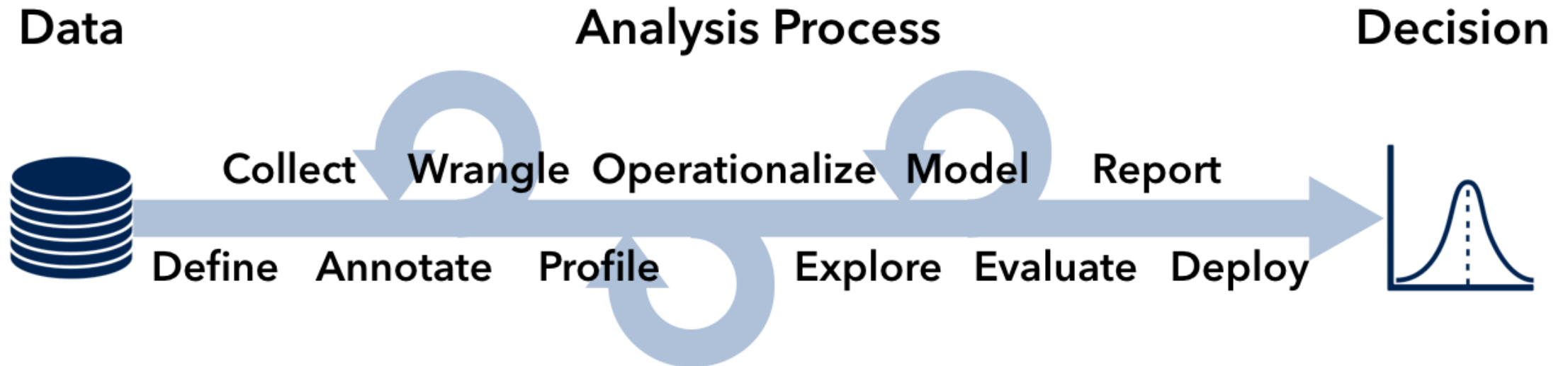
When applied effectively to promote data exploration, analysis, and insight, we will experience what Joseph Berkson called “**interocular traumatic impact**: a conclusion that hits us between the eyes.”

- Cleveland 1993

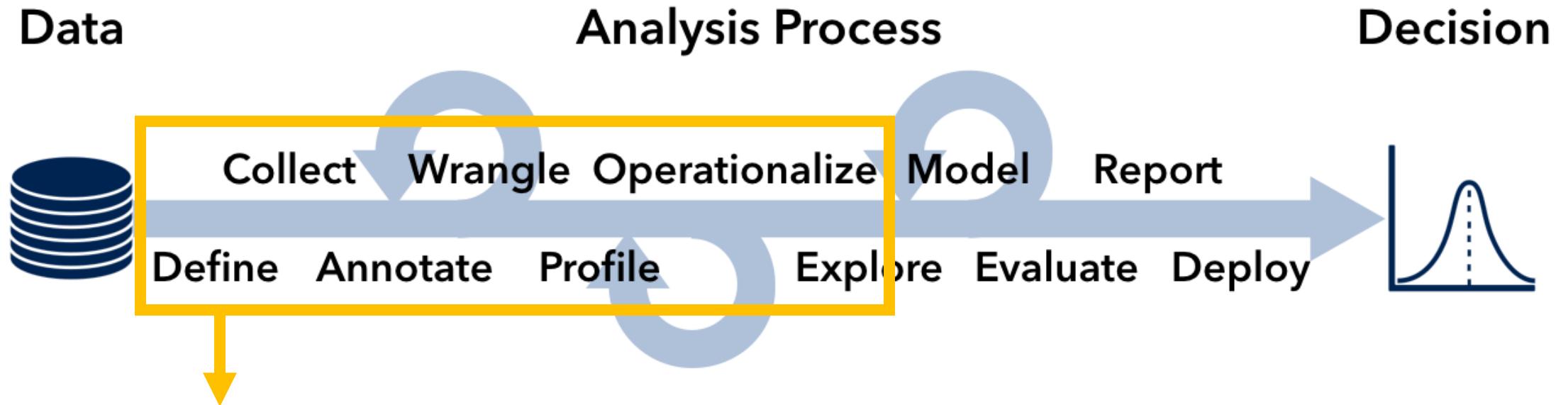


Empower understanding of data and analysis processes

Visualization in data analysis process



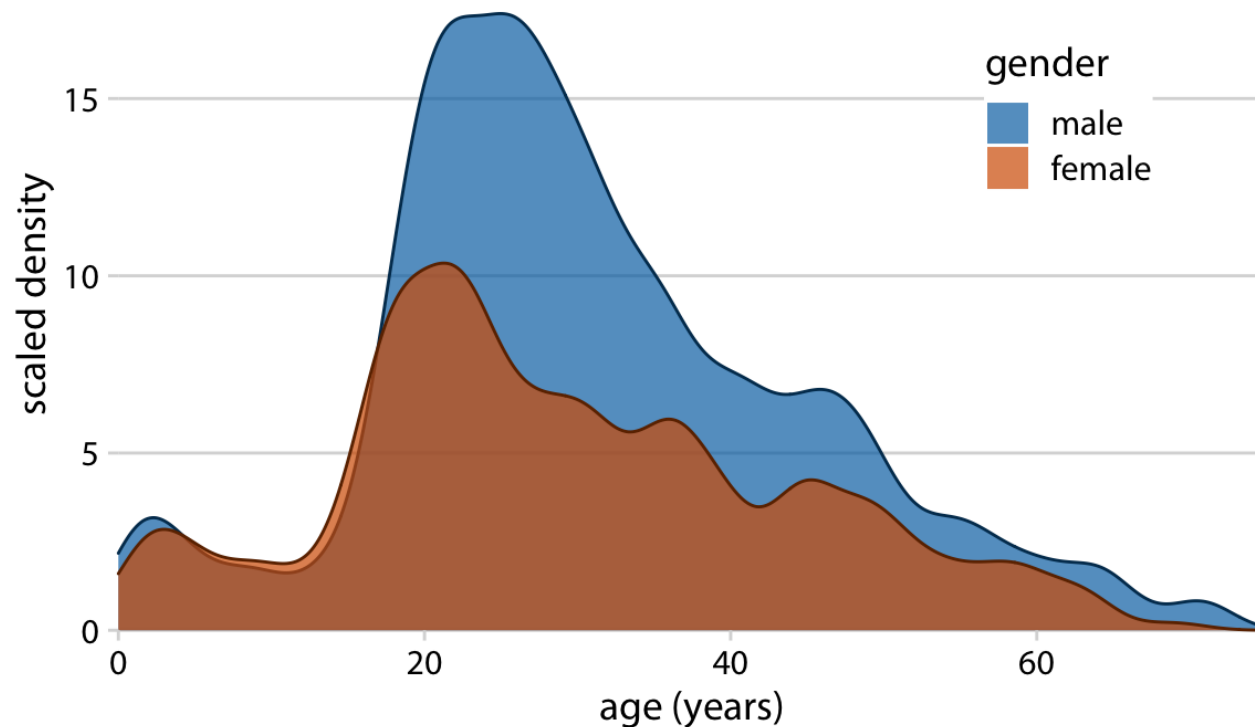
Visualization in data analysis process



Stage 1:

Understanding data quality and research task at hand

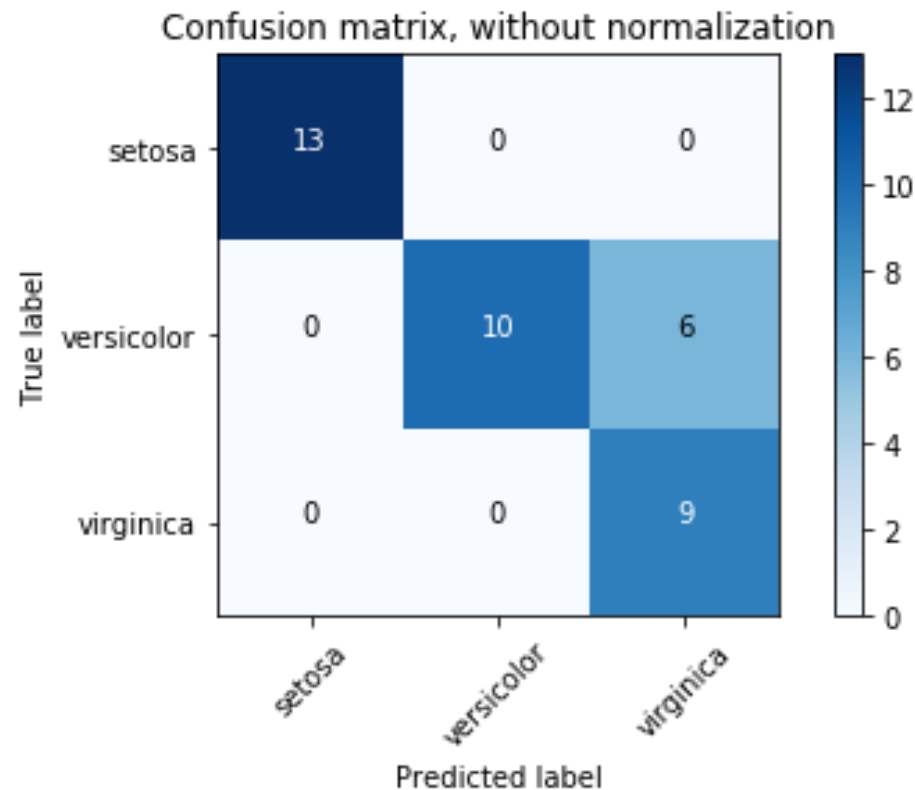
Collect: Do I have the right population?



- Less female than male
- Females are younger

<https://clauswilke.com/dataviz/histograms-density-plots.html>

Annotate: Are there disagreements?



- 84% accuracy (32/38)
- All errors isolated in versicolor

<https://medium.com/@rakeshrajpurohit/confusion-matrix-469248ed0397>

Wrangle

I spend more than half of my time integrating, cleansing and transforming data without doing any actual analysis. Most of the time I'm lucky if I get to do any "analysis" at all.

- Anonymous Data Scientist

But wait... Visualizations can be my **superpower**

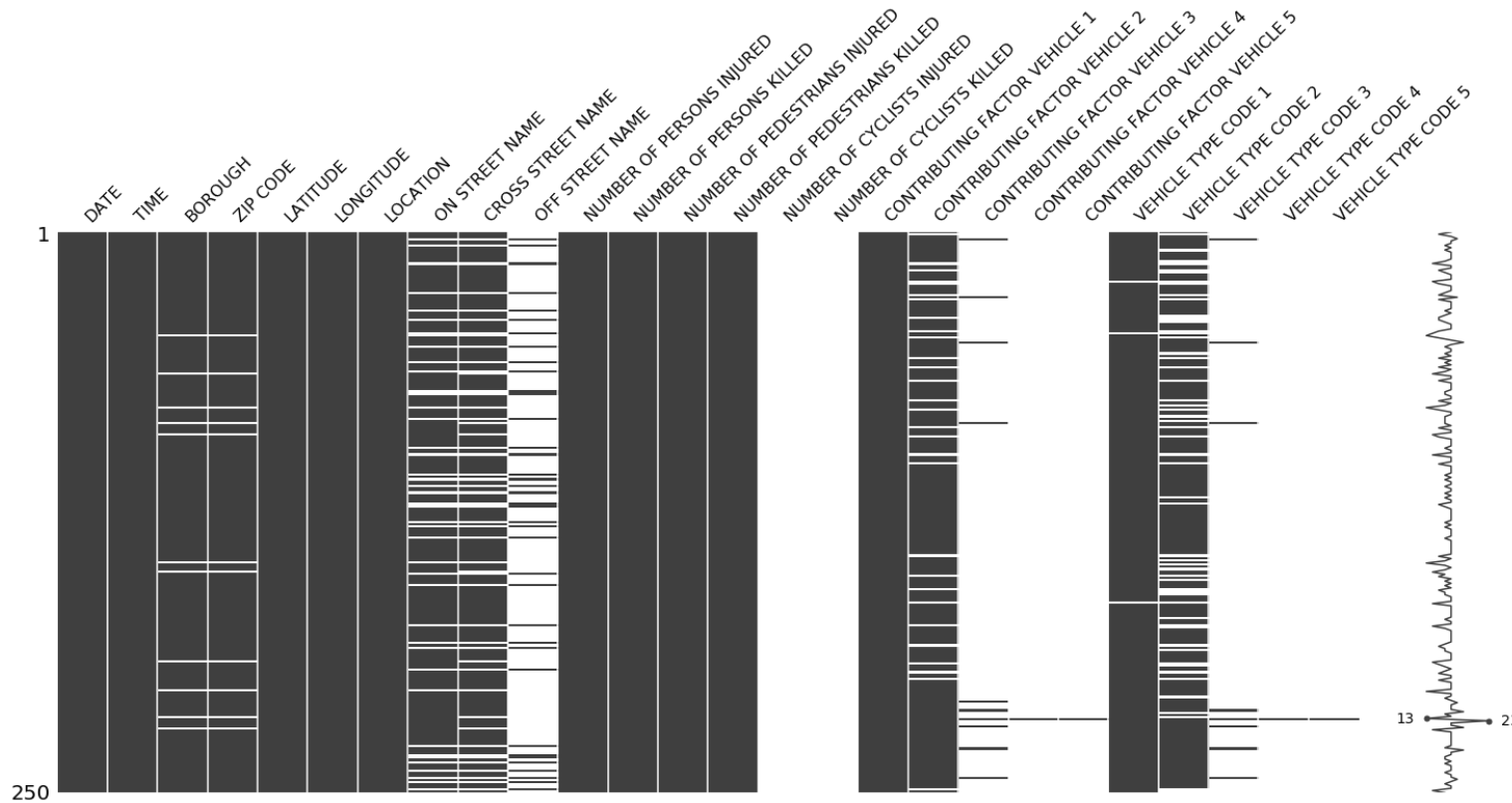


Wrangle

The first sign that a visualization is good is that it **shows you a problem in your data**... ...every successful visualization that I've been involved with has had this stage where you realize, "Oh my God, this data is not what I thought it would be!" So already, you've discovered something.

- Martin Wattenberg

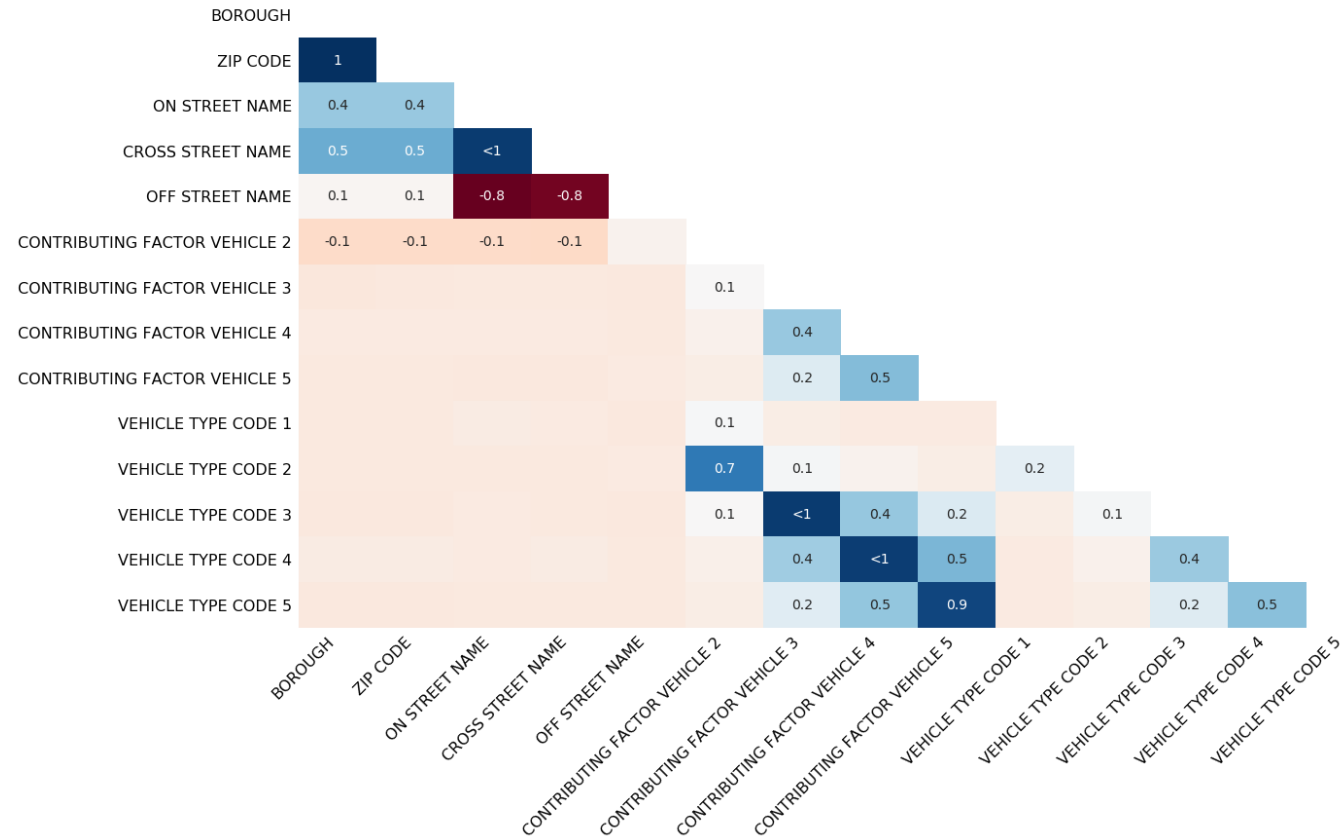
Wrangle: How messy is this dataset?



- What feature can I live without?

<https://github.com/ResidentMario/missingno>

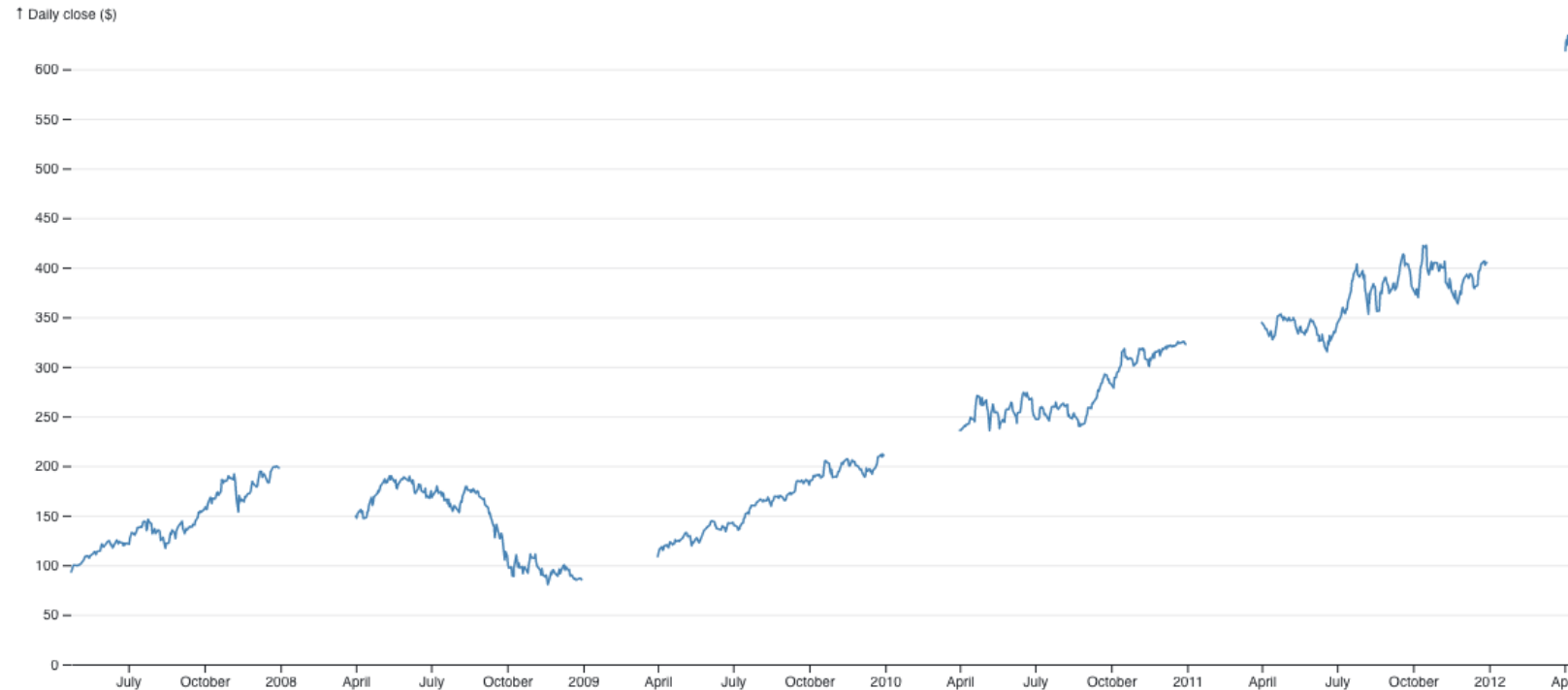
Wrangle: How messy is this dataset?



- Which pairs can I live without?

<https://github.com/ResidentMario/missingno>

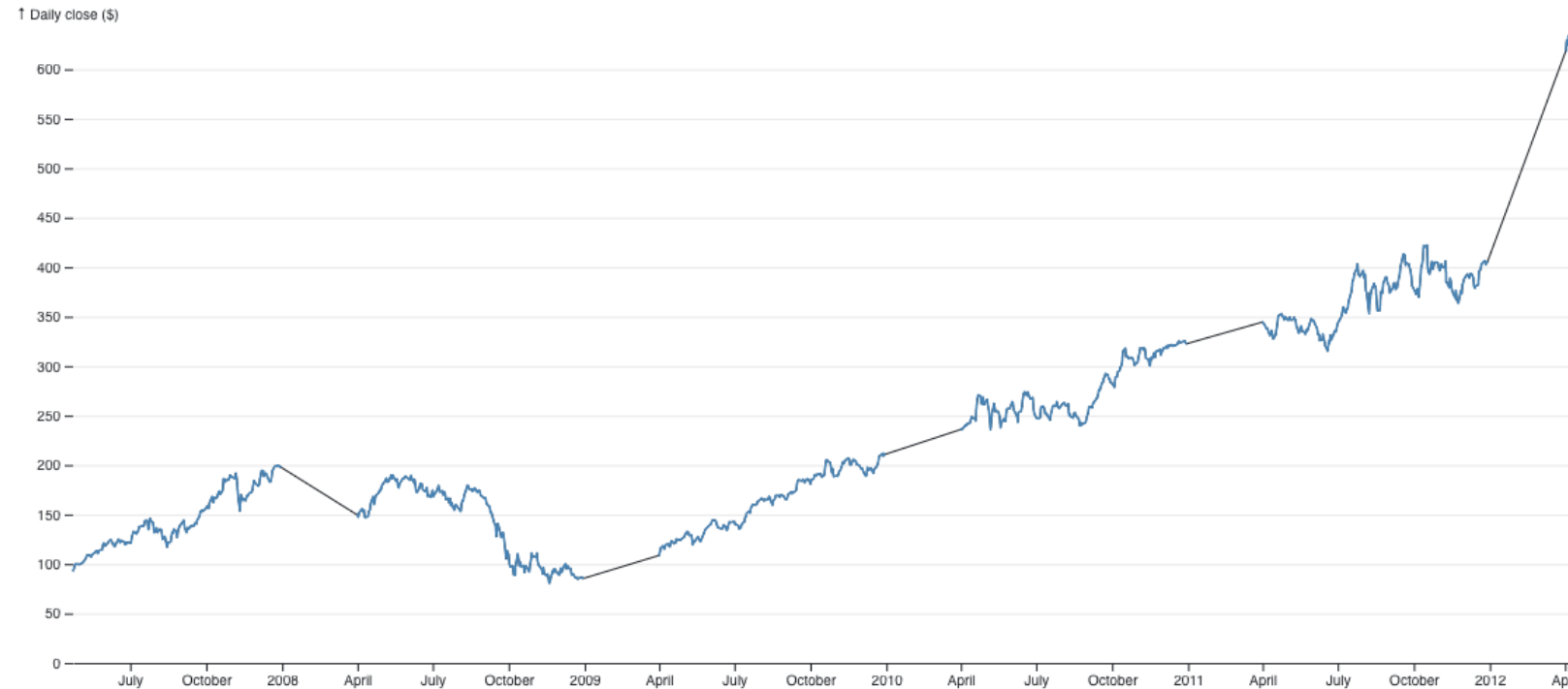
Wrangle: Do I impute or not?



- To impute or not to impute, that is the question

<https://observablehq.com/@d3/line-with-missing-data>

Wrangle: Do I impute or not?



- To impute or not to impute, that is the question

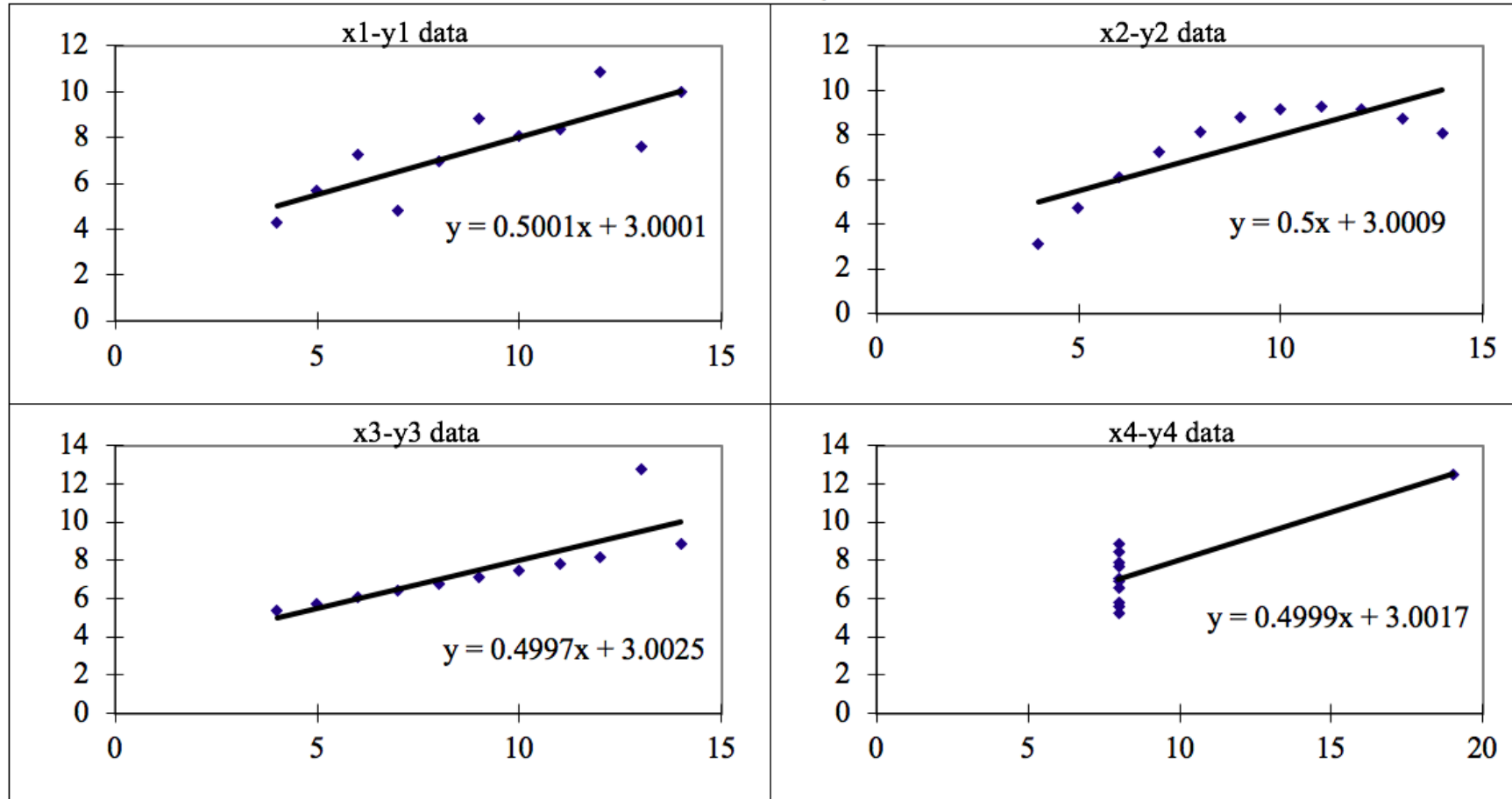
<https://observablehq.com/@d3/line-with-missing-data>

Profile: How is my data distributed?

	I		II		III		IV	
	x	y	x	y	x	y	x	y
	10	8,04	10	9,14	10	7,46	8	6,58
	8	6,95	8	8,14	8	6,77	8	5,76
	13	7,58	13	8,74	13	12,74	8	7,71
	9	8,81	9	8,77	9	7,11	8	8,84
	11	8,33	11	9,26	11	7,81	8	8,47
	14	9,96	14	8,1	14	8,84	8	7,04
	6	7,24	6	6,13	6	6,08	8	5,25
	4	4,26	4	3,1	4	5,39	19	12,5
	12	10,84	12	9,13	12	8,15	8	5,56
	7	4,82	7	7,26	7	6,42	8	7,91
	5	5,68	5	4,74	5	5,73	8	6,89
SUM	99,00	82,51	99,00	82,51	99,00	82,50	99,00	82,51
AVG	9,00	7,50	9,00	7,50	9,00	7,50	9,00	7,50
STDEV	3,32	2,03	3,32	2,03	3,32	2,03	3,32	2,03

Profile: How is my data distributed?

Anscombe's Quartet



Profile: How is my data distributed?

Hidden in the bars

Data revealed in scatterplots may be masked within a bar chart.



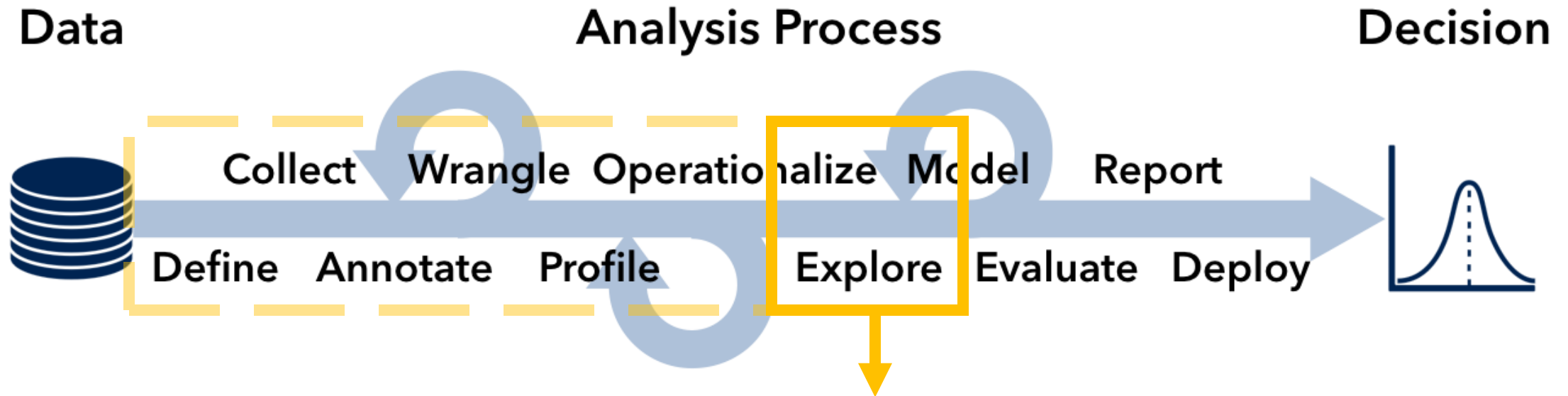
SOURCE: T.L. WEISSGERBER ET AL / PLOS BIOLOGY 2015

5W INFOGRAPHIC / KNOWABLE

- Check my assumptions

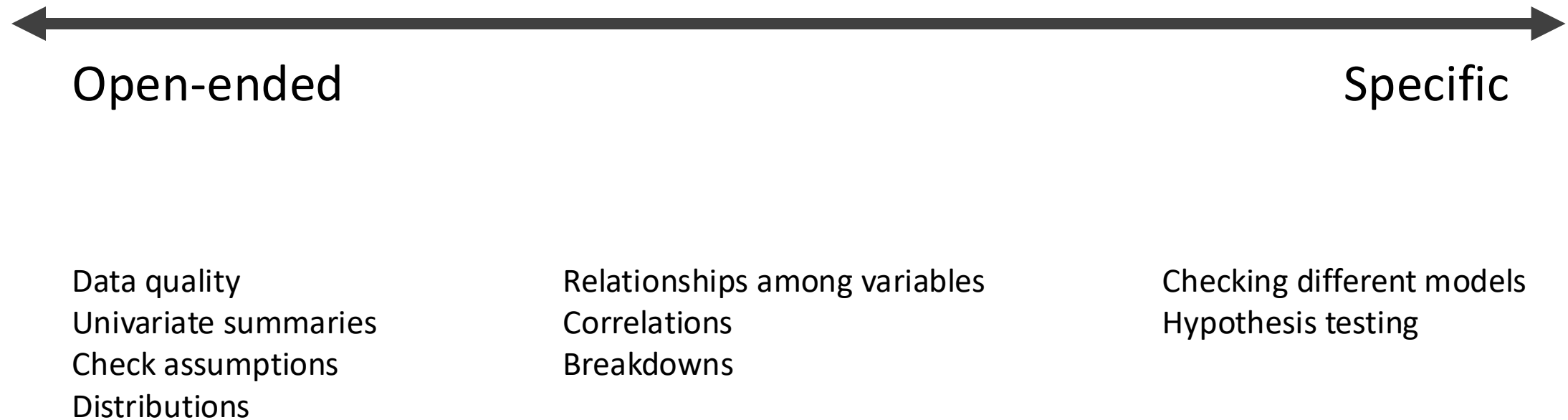
<https://knowablemagazine.org/article/mind/2019/science-data-visualization>

Visualization in data analysis process



Stage 2:
Exploring the data

Explore



Visual exploration process

Pick a question

Construct visualizations

Inspect the answer

Identify new questions

Repeat

Visual analysis journal

Write down your question

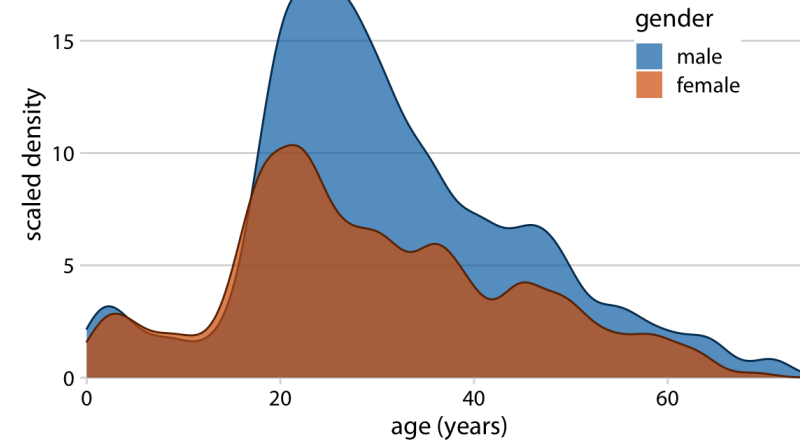
Generate the visualization

Summarize your insight

Identify next steps or question

Document the how

Are genders balanced in my dataset?



Nope. There are less female than male.
Females are slightly younger.

Need to collect more female data.

Visual exploration tips

Avoid premature fixation on perfection!

It's expected that exploratory data visualizations are not perfect.

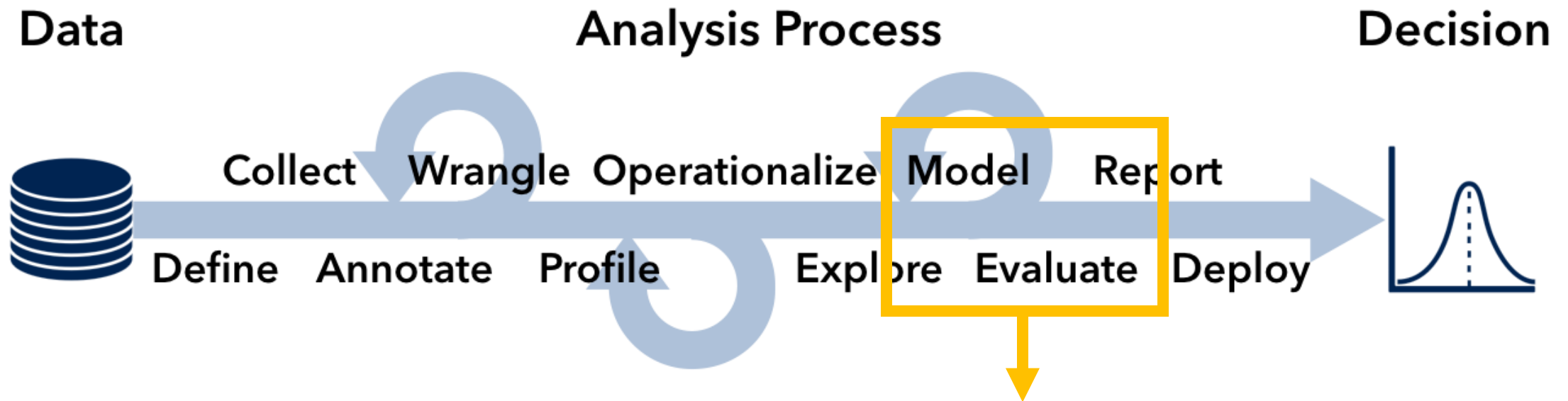
Show data variation, not design variation

Your viz may not be perfect, but does it do a decent job?

Iterate quickly

Choose the right tool for the right job

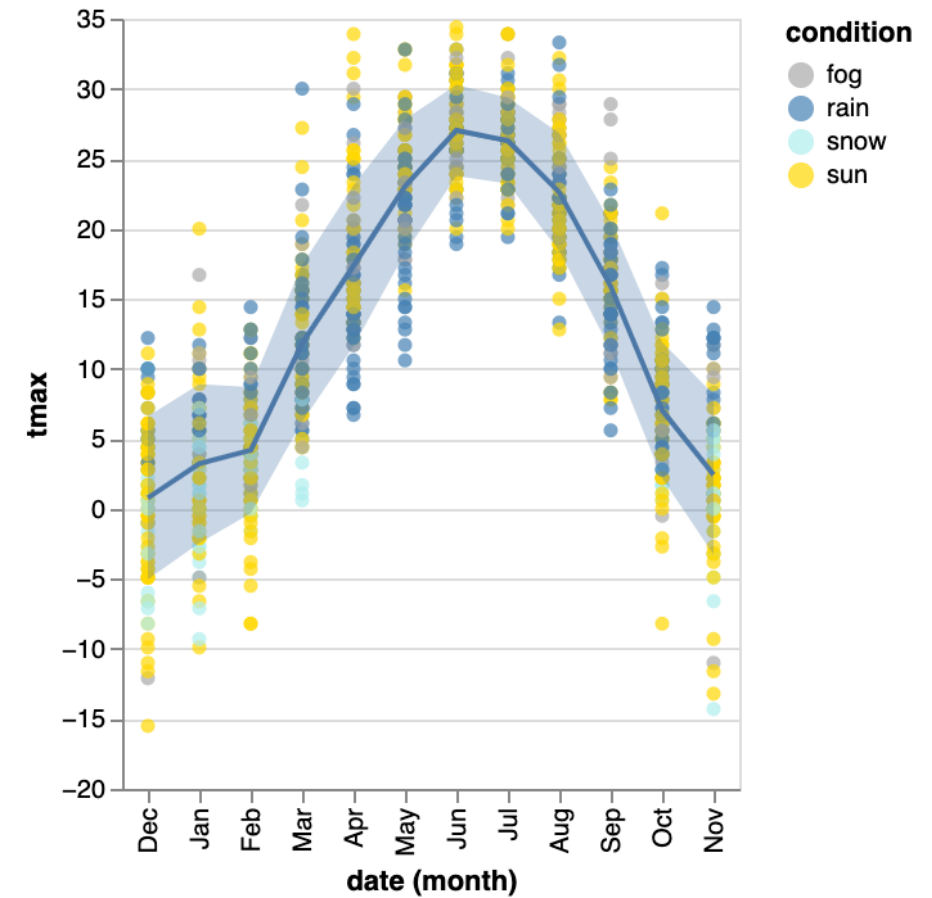
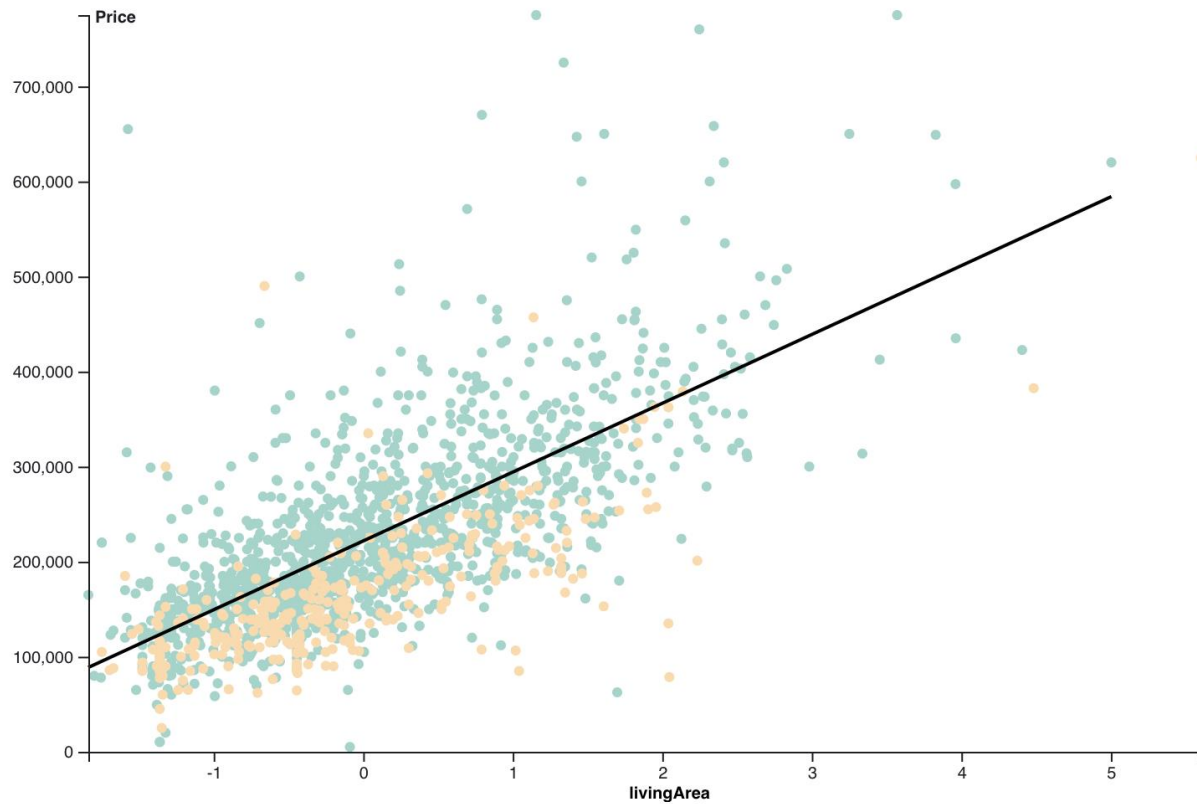
Visualization in data analysis process



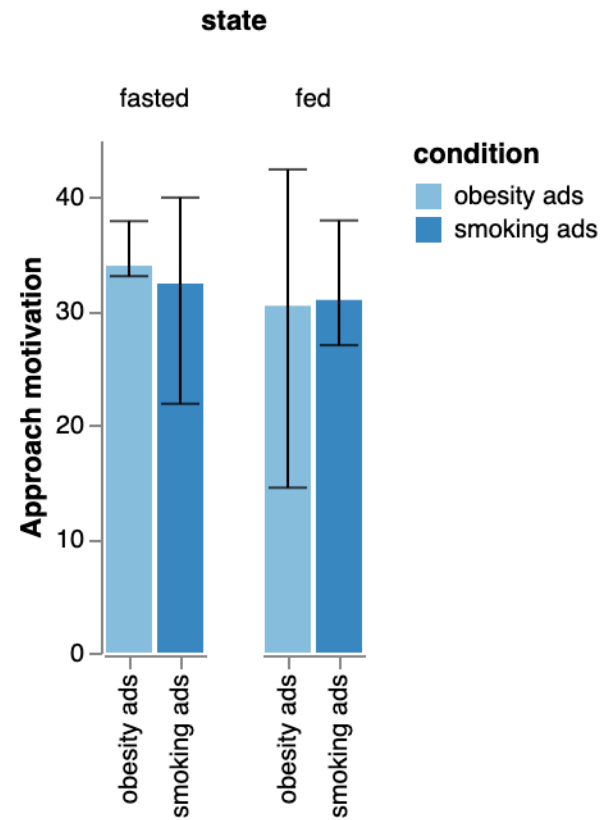
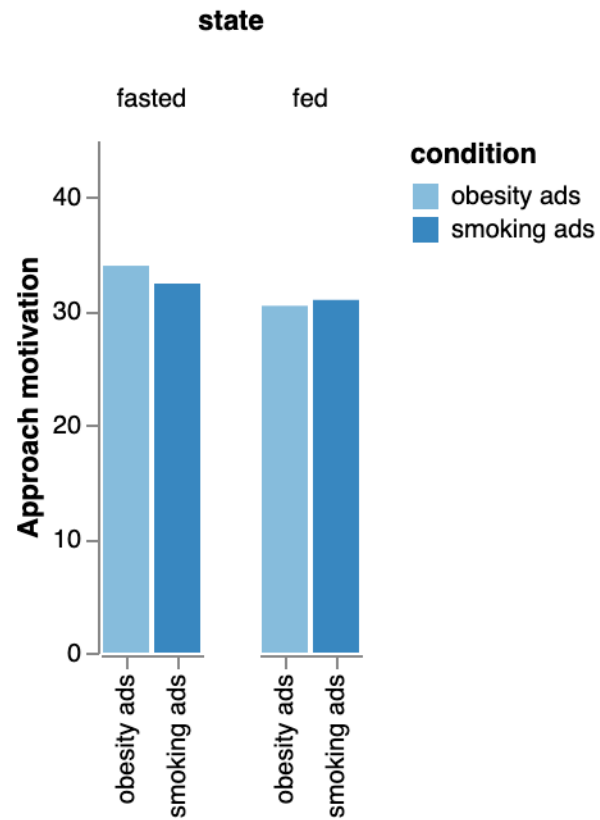
Stage 3:

Modeling and evaluating relationships and insights

Model

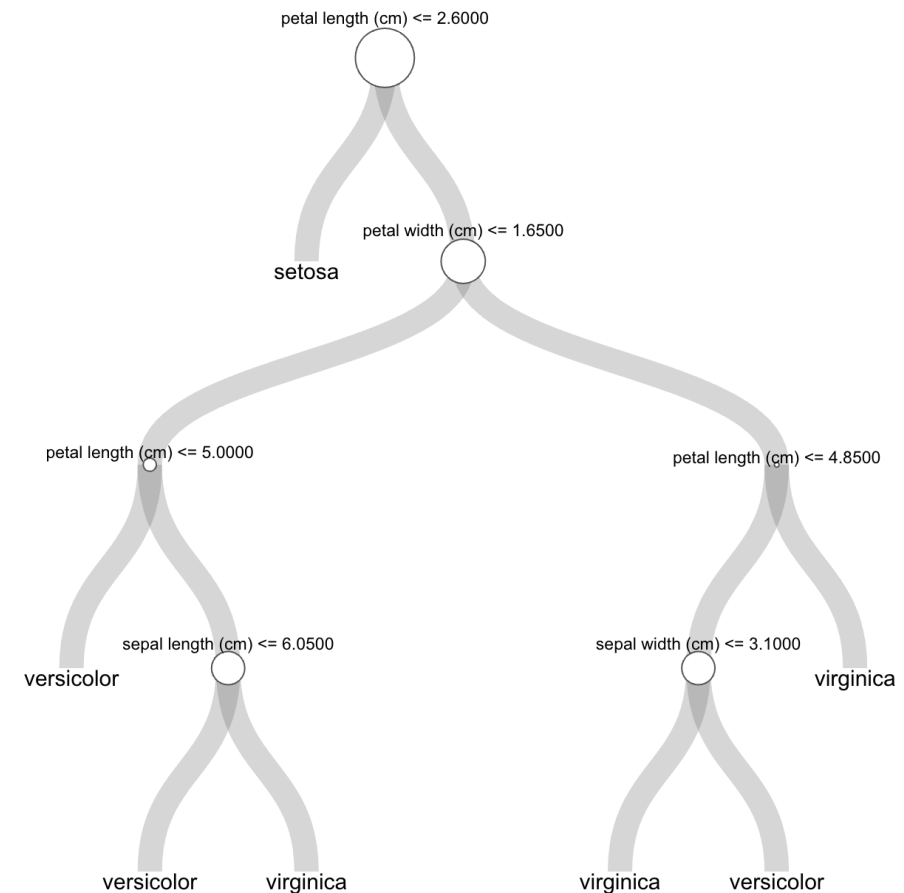


Evaluate

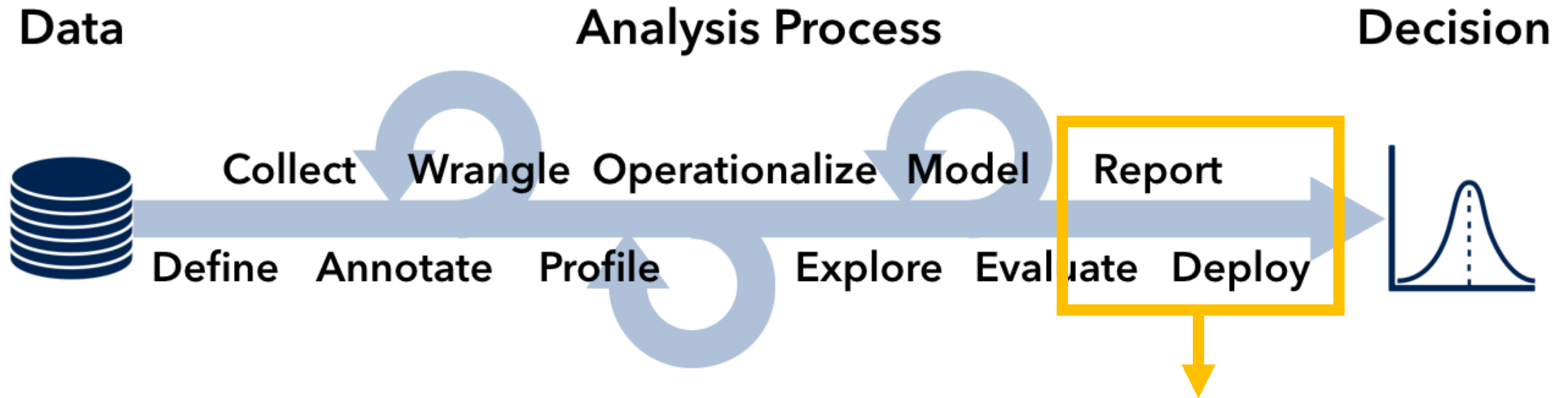


Model & Evaluate

```
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        {
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                }, {
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                }
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            }
          ], "name": "petal length (cm) <= 5.0000",
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        }, {
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            {
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    }
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})
```



Visualization in data analysis process



Stage 4:
Sharing the insights

Report

RESEARCH

RESEARCH ARTICLE SUMMARY

YEAST GENETICS

A global genetic interaction network maps a wiring diagram of cellular function

Michael Costanzo,¹ Benjamin VanderSluis,² Elizabeth N. Koch,³ Anastasia Baryshnikova,² Carlos Pons,⁴ Guihong Tan,⁵ Wen Wang,⁶ Matej Usaj,⁷ Julia Hanchard,⁸ Susan D. Lee,⁹ Vincent Pelechano,¹⁰ Erin B. Styles,¹¹ Maximilian Billmann,¹² Jolanda van Leeuwen,¹³ Nydia van Dyk,¹⁴ Zhen-Yuan Lin,¹⁵ Elena Kuzmin,¹⁶ Justin Nelson,¹⁷ Jeff S. Piotrowski,¹⁸ Tharan Srikumar,¹⁹ Sondra Bahr,²⁰ Yiqun Chen,²¹ Raamesh Deshpande,²² Christoph F. Kurat,²³ Sheena C. Li,²⁴ Zhijian Li,²⁵ Mojca Mattiazzi Usaj,²⁶ Hiroki Okada,²⁷ Natasha Pascoe,²⁸ Bryan-Joseph San Luis,²⁹ Sara Sharifpour,³⁰ Emira Shuterfild,³¹ Scott W. Stimpkins,³² Jamie Snider,³³ Harsha Garadi Suresh,³⁴ Yizhao Tan,³⁵ Hongwei Zhu,³⁶ Noel Malod-Dognin,³⁷ Yuk Janjie,³⁸ Natasa Przulj,³⁹ Olga G. Troyanskaya,⁴⁰ Igor Stagljar,⁴¹ Tian Xia,⁴² Yoshikazu Ohya,⁴³ Anne-Claude Gingras,⁴⁴ Brian Raught,⁴⁵ Michael Boutros,⁴⁶ Lars M. Steinmetz,⁴⁷ Claire L. Moore,⁴⁸ Adam P. Rosebrock,⁴⁹ Amy A. Caudy,⁵⁰ Chad L. Myers,⁵¹ Brenda Andrews,⁵² Charles Boone⁵³

INTRODUCTION: Genetic interactions occur when mutations in two or more genes combine to generate an unexpected phenotype. An extreme negative or synthetic lethal genetic interaction occurs when two mutations, neither lethal individually, combine to cause cell death. Conversely, positive genetic interactions occur when two mutations produce a phenotype that is less severe than expected. Genetic interactions identify functional relationships between genes and can be harnessed for biological discovery and therapeutic target identification. They may also explain a considerable component of the undiscovered genetics associated with human

diseases. Here, we describe construction and analysis of a comprehensive genetic interaction network for a eukaryotic cell.

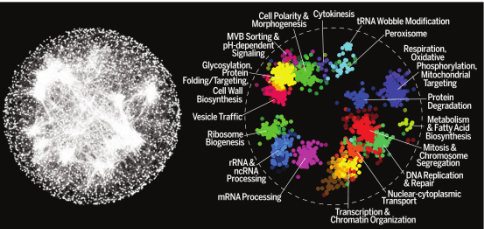
RATIONALE: Genome sequencing projects are providing an unprecedented view of genetic variation. However, our ability to interpret genetic information to predict inherited phenotypes remains limited, in large part due to the extensive buffering of genomes, making most individual eukaryotic genes dispensable for life. To explore the extent to which genetic interactions reveal cellular function and contribute to complex phenotypes, and to discover the

general principles of genetic networks, we used automated yeast genetics to construct a global genetic interaction network.

RESULTS: We tested most of the ~6000 genes in the yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* for all possible pairwise genetic interactions, identifying nearly 1 million interactions, including ~350,000 negative and ~350,000 positive interactions, spanning ~90% of all yeast genes. Essential genes were network hubs, displaying five times as many interactions as nonessential genes. The set of genetic interactions or the genetic interaction profile for a gene provides a quantitative measure of function, and a global network based on genetic interaction profile similarity revealed a hierarchy of modules reflecting the functional architecture of a cell. Negative interactions connected functionally related genes, mapped core bioprocesses, and identified pleiotropic genes, whereas positive interactions often mapped general regulatory connections associated with defects in cell cycle progression or cellular proteostasis. Importantly, the global network illustrates how coherent sets of negative or positive genetic interactions connect protein complex and pathways to map a functional wiring diagram of the cell.

CONCLUSION: A global genetic interaction network highlights the functional organization of a cell and provides a resource for predicting gene and pathway function. This network emphasizes the prevalence of genetic interactions and their potential to compound phenotypes associated with single mutations. Negative genetic interactions tend to connect functionally related genes and thus may be predicted using alternative functional information. Although less functionally informative, positive interactions may provide insights into general mechanisms of genetic suppression or resiliency. We anticipate that the ordered topology of the global genetic network, in which genetic interactions connect coherently within and between protein complexes and pathways, may be exploited to decipher genotype-to-phenotype relationships. ■

The list of author affiliations is available in the full article online.
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Cite this article as: Costanzo et al., Science 353, aaf420 (2016). DOI: 10.1126/science.aaf420



A global network of genetic interaction profile similarities. (Left) Genes with similar genetic interaction profiles are connected in a global network, such that genes exhibiting more similar profiles are located closer to each other, whereas genes with less similar profiles are positioned farther apart. (Right) Spatial analysis of functional enrichment was used to identify and color network regions enriched for similar Gene Ontology bioprocess terms.

SCIENCE sciencemag.org

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SHARE

Extensive Data Shows Punishing Reach of Racism for Black Boys

By EMILY BADGER, CLAIRE CAIN MILLER, ADAM PEARCE and KEVIN QUEALY MARCH 19, 2018

Black boys raised in America, even in the wealthiest families and living in some of the most well-to-do neighborhoods, still earn less in adulthood than white boys with similar backgrounds, according to a sweeping new study that traced the lives of millions of children.

White boys who grow up rich are likely to remain that way. Black boys raised at the top, however, are more likely to become poor than to stay wealthy in their own adult households.

Follow the lives of 0 boys who grew up in rich families ...

Grew up rich

...and see where they end up as adults:

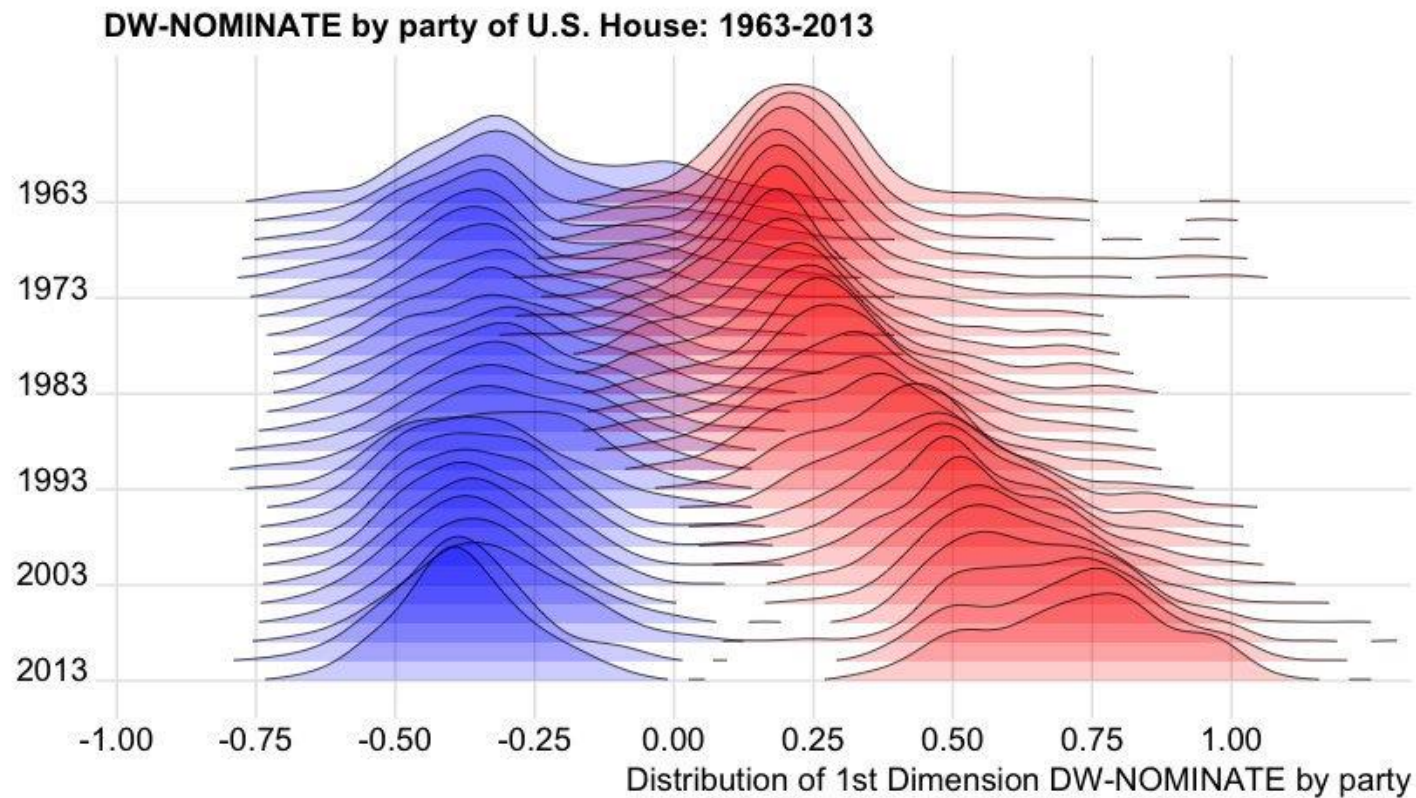
WHITE MEN BLACK MEN
0% 0%

Rich adult

Inner-middle-class adult

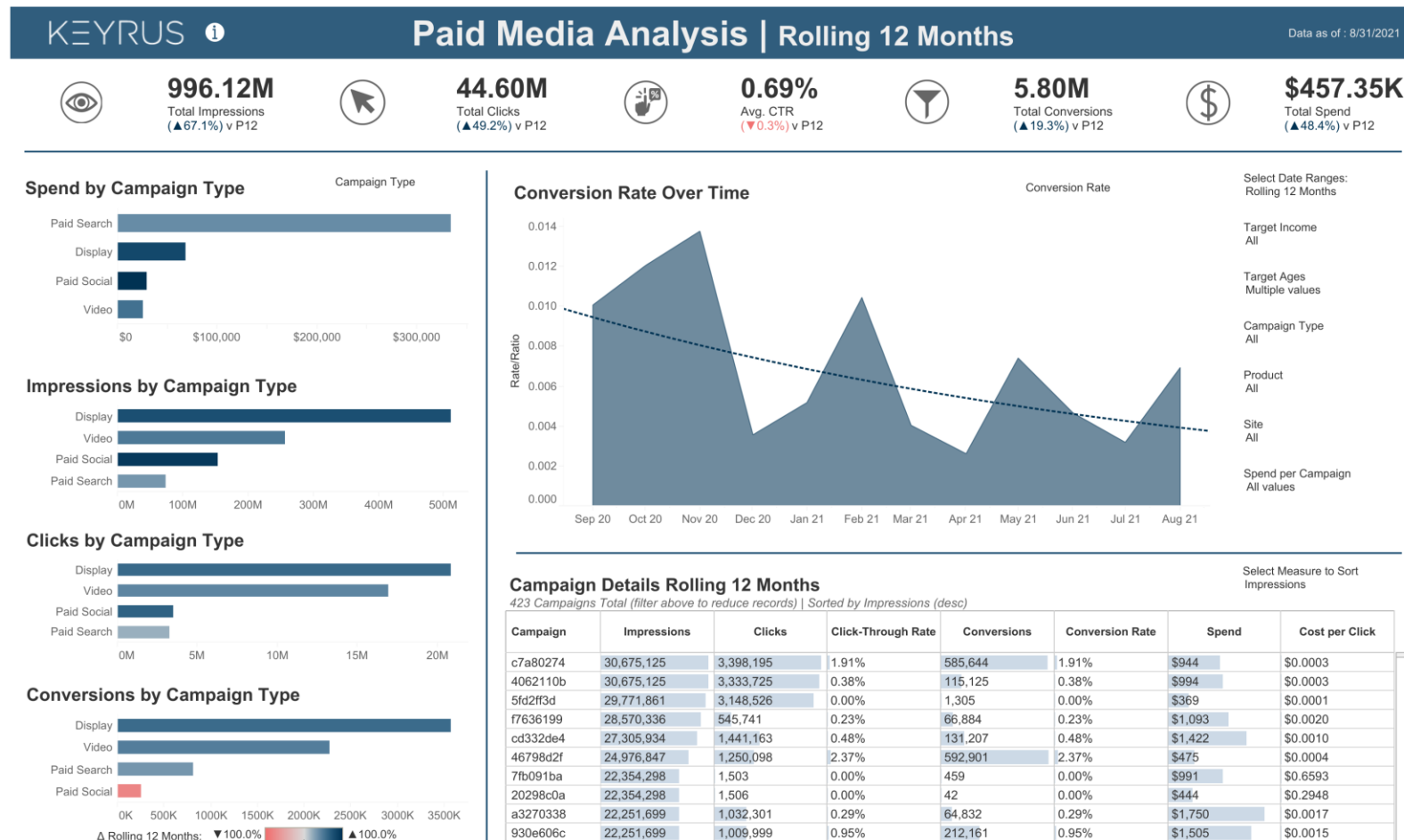
0 0

Deploy: Is my distribution shifting?



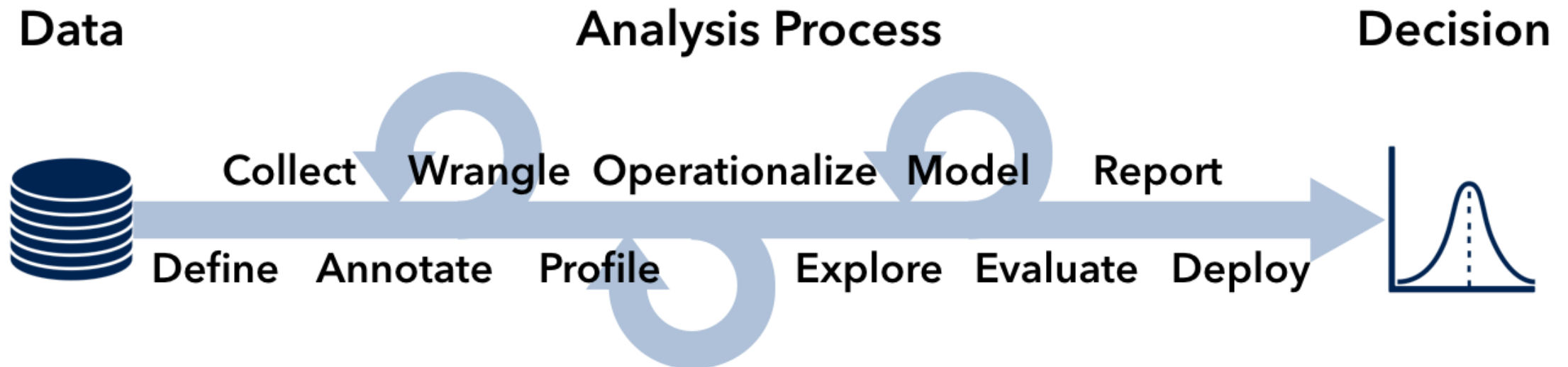
<https://rpubs.com/paul4forest/movingdistribution>

Deploy: Dashboard



<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/keyrus/viz/PaidMediaAnalysisKeyrus/PaidMediaAnalysisOverview>

Visualization in data analysis process



Remember: Data visualization is critical to your analysis process

Human Perception

How do humans see data?

Perceptual grammar

Why should we be interested in visualization?

Because the human visual system is a **pattern seeker** of enormous power and subtlety. The eye and the visual cortex of the brain form a massively parallel processor that provides the highest bandwidth channel into human cognitive centers. At higher levels of processing, **perception and cognition are closely interrelated** which is the reason why the words “understanding” and “seeing” are synonymous.

- Ware 1998



Figure 1. Adapted from Nakayama et al. 1989

Perceptual grammar

The more general point is that **when data is presented in certain ways, the patterns can be readily perceived**. We can think of a “grammar” of perception and this grammar of perception can be translated directly into a rules for displaying information.

If we can understand this **perceptual grammar**, then we can present our data in such a way that the important and informative patterns stand out. If we disobey the rules, our data will be incomprehensible or misleading.

- Ware 1998



Figure 1. Adapted from Nakayama et al. 1989

How can we leverage our perception?

Signal detection

Magnitude estimation

Pre-attentive processing

Distinctive colors

Signal detection

Can you read the text?

Data

Data

Data

Data

Science

Science

Science

Science

Is Awesome

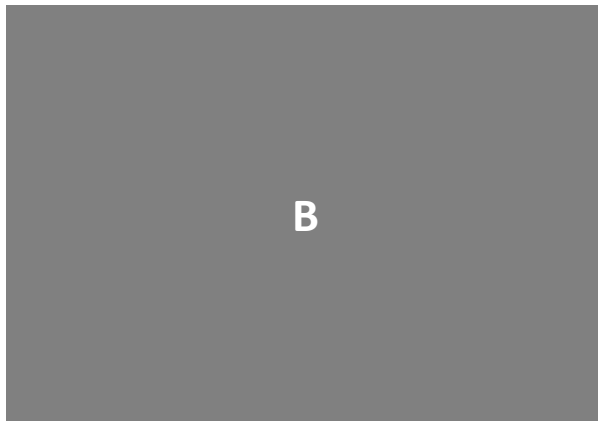
Is Awesome

Is Awesome

Is Awesome

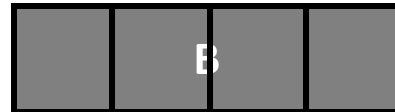
Magnitude estimation

How many A's in B?



Magnitude estimation

How many A's in B?



Encoding

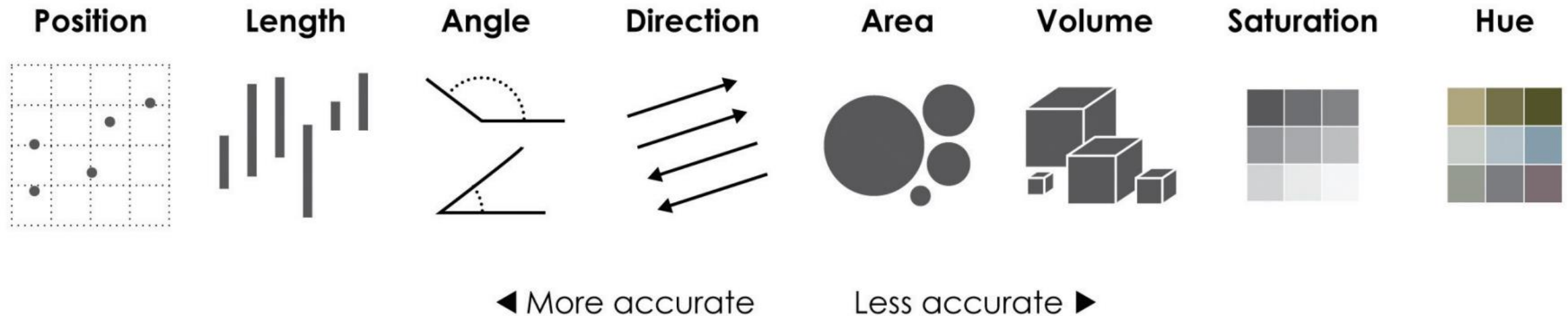
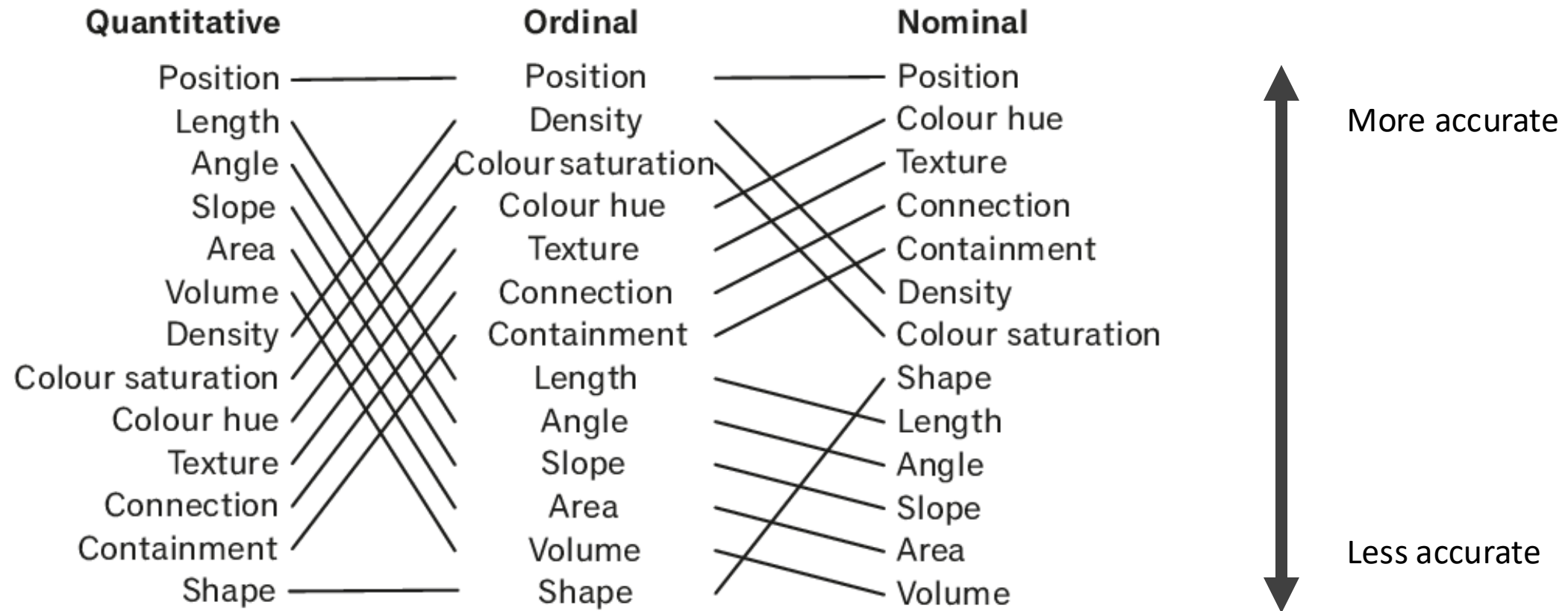


FIGURE 3-12 *Visual cues ranked by Cleveland and McGill*

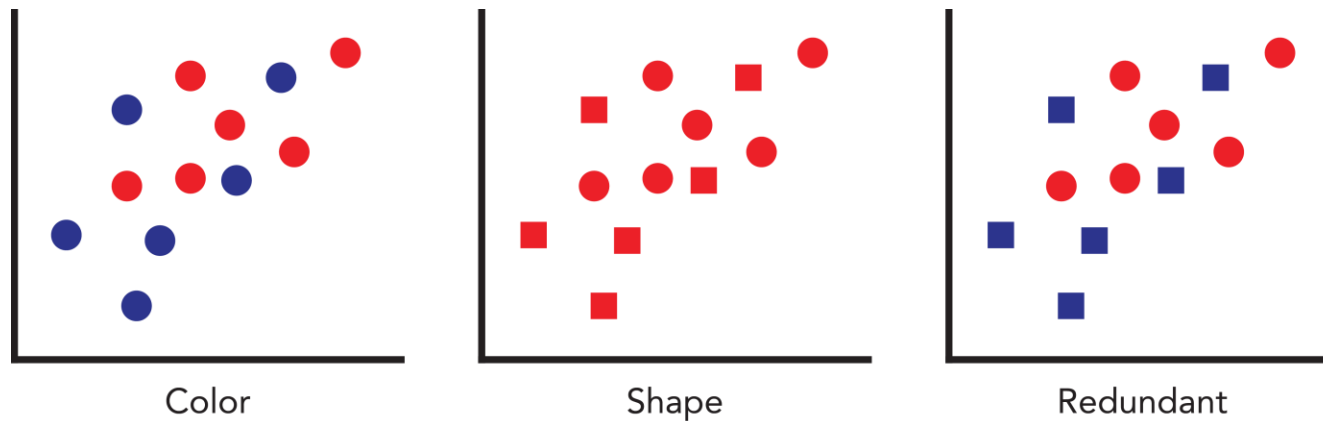
Task to find the best encoding



Ranking of visual variables by data type. Mackinlay 1986

Multiple encodings

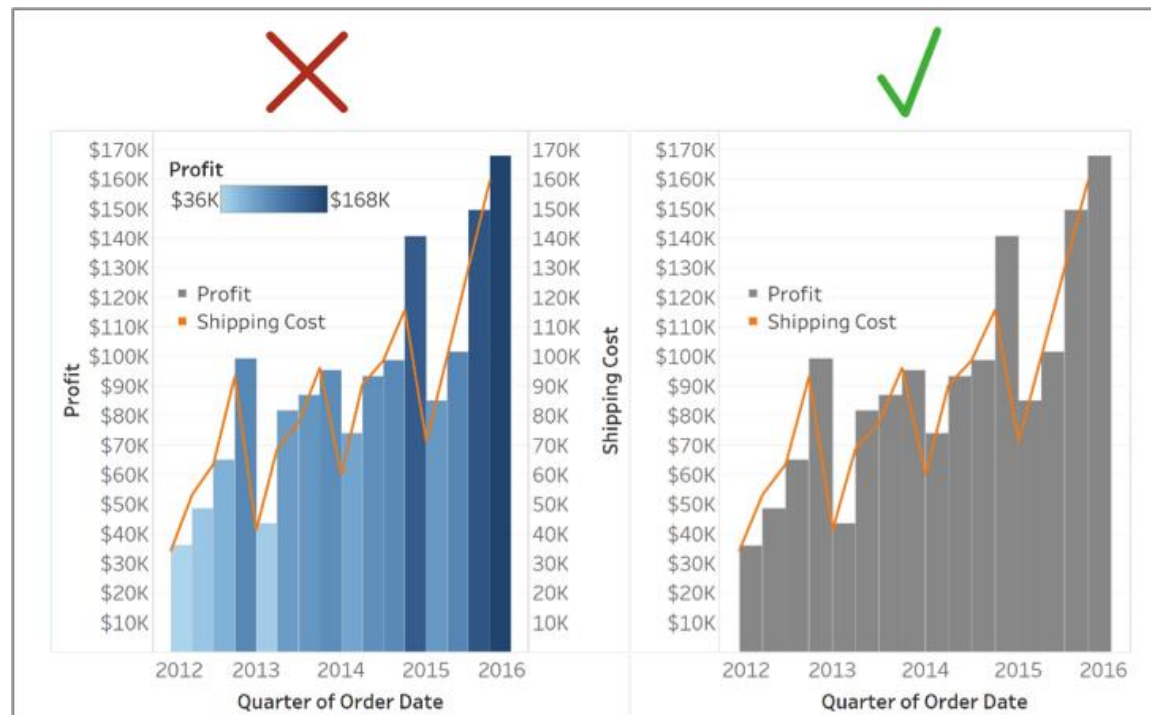
Redundant encoding can be beneficial



<https://visualthinking.psych.northwestern.edu/projects/redundantencoding.html>

Multiple encodings

Redundant encoding can be beneficial, except when it's not



<https://www.teknionusa.com/blog/the-10-commandments-of-visual-analytics-in-tableau>

Pre-attentive processing

Subconscious accumulation of information from the environment

All information is pre-attentively processed

Brain filters and processes what's important

Salient or relevant information is selected and analyzed by conscious (attentive) processing

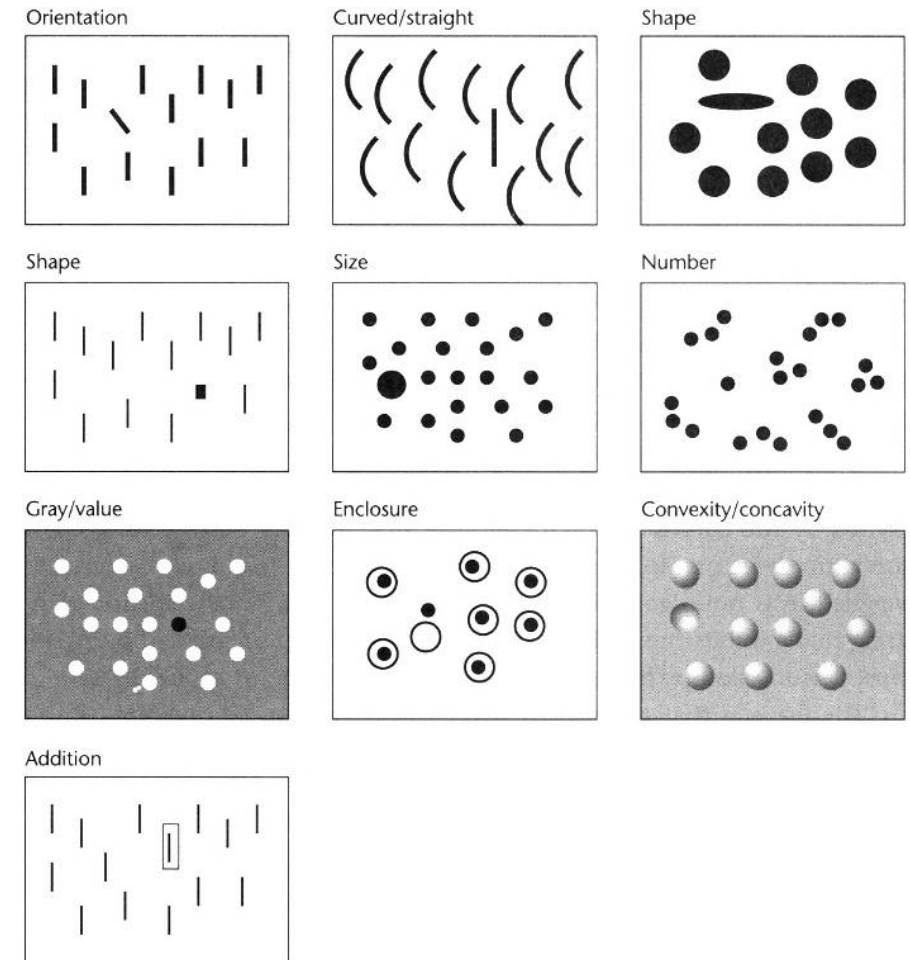
Pre-attentive features

Form – line orientation, line length, line width, line collinearity, size, curvature, spatial grouping, added marks, luminosity.

Color – hue, intensity

Motion – flicker, direction of motion

Spatial position – 2d position, stereoscopic depth, convex/concave shape from shading



Effective use of color

In order to use color effectively it is necessary to recognize that it **deceives continually.**

- Josef Albers, Interaction of Color

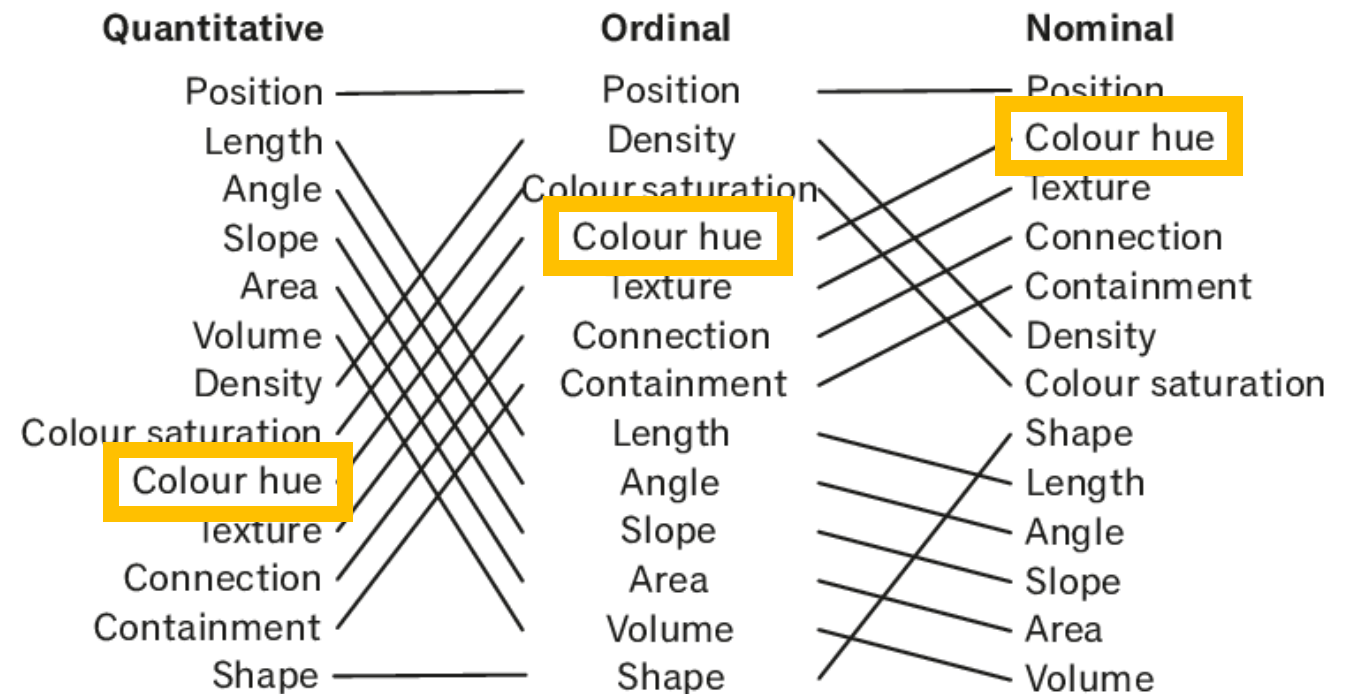
Effective use of color

Are the lines in the middle of the two boxes the same color?



Color

Best for **nominal variables**
(categorical, binary)



Visually distinct colors

Color Name Distance

0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.96	1.00	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.19	.47	blue 65.3%
1.00	0.00	1.00	0.98	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.97	1.00	.87	orange 92.2%
1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.70	0.99	.70	green 81.3%
1.00	0.98	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.96	0.99	1.00	1.00	1.00	.64	red 79.3%
0.96	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.95	0.83	0.98	1.00	0.97	.43	purple 52.5%
1.00	1.00	1.00	0.96	0.95	0.00	0.99	0.96	0.96	1.00	.47	brown 60.5%
1.00	1.00	1.00	0.99	0.83	0.99	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	.47	pink 60.3%
0.99	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.98	0.96	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.99	.74	grey 83.7%
1.00	0.97	0.70	1.00	1.00	0.96	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	.11	yellow 20.1%
0.19	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.97	1.00	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.00	.25	blue 27.2%
Average 0.96										.52	

Tableau-10

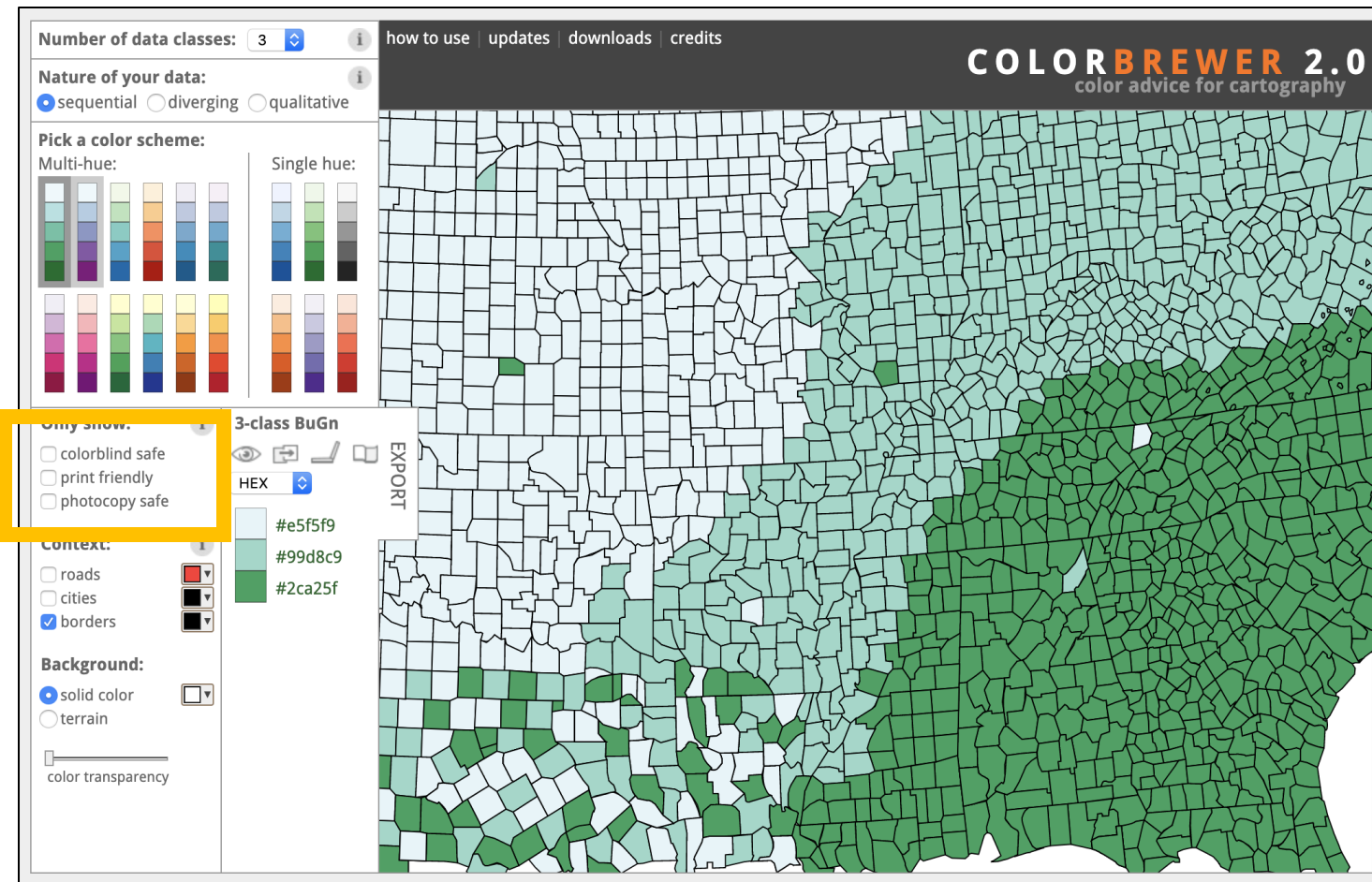
Tableau-10

Heer & Stone, 2012

Brewer palettes

Color combinations
selected for cartography

Don't forget about
colorblindness and
black/white printing



<http://colorbrewer2.org>

Storytelling with Data

How do we tell stories with visualization?

Exploratory analysis

Understand and get familiar with your data and generate lots of information

Mining!



Explanatory analysis

Learning more about what you found to communicate what you found and tell a story about it



Steps to storytelling with data

Think about the context

Who are you telling the story to?

Craft the narrative

How are you telling the story?

Design appropriate visualizations

What are you telling the story with?

Context matters....a lot

Who?

What?

How?

Context matters....a lot

Who?

Who is your audience? Can you be very specific?

What's your relationship with your audience? Do they know you well enough to understand your assumptions? Do you have credibility?

Context matters....a lot

What?

What do you want your audience to know or do? What action do you want them to take?

Context matters....a lot

How?

What data do you have to make your case? How will you present your data?

How will you communicate to your audience? What affordances do you have?
How much control do you have?

Example context: executive pitch

Who is my audience?

Executives and program directors who approved funding for research internship program.

What does success look like?

Funded research under the program was a success and provided tangible impact to the product. They should continue funding the program.

How would I do this?

Illustrate the number of publications, product features that were shipped, successful career paths of the interns in the program.

Example context: public

Large-scale physical activity data reveal worldwide activity inequality

Tim Althoff¹, Rok Sosić¹, Jennifer L. Hicks², Abby C. King^{3,4}, Scott L. Delp^{2,5} & Jure Leskovec^{1,6}

Who is my audience?

General public audience

What does success look like?

As an individual, I can see where I and my country stand in worldwide physical activity inequality data

How would I do this?

Interactive visualization where, given a country and my daily average step count, display the step distribution

Example context: public

- Country = China
- Daily steps = 3500

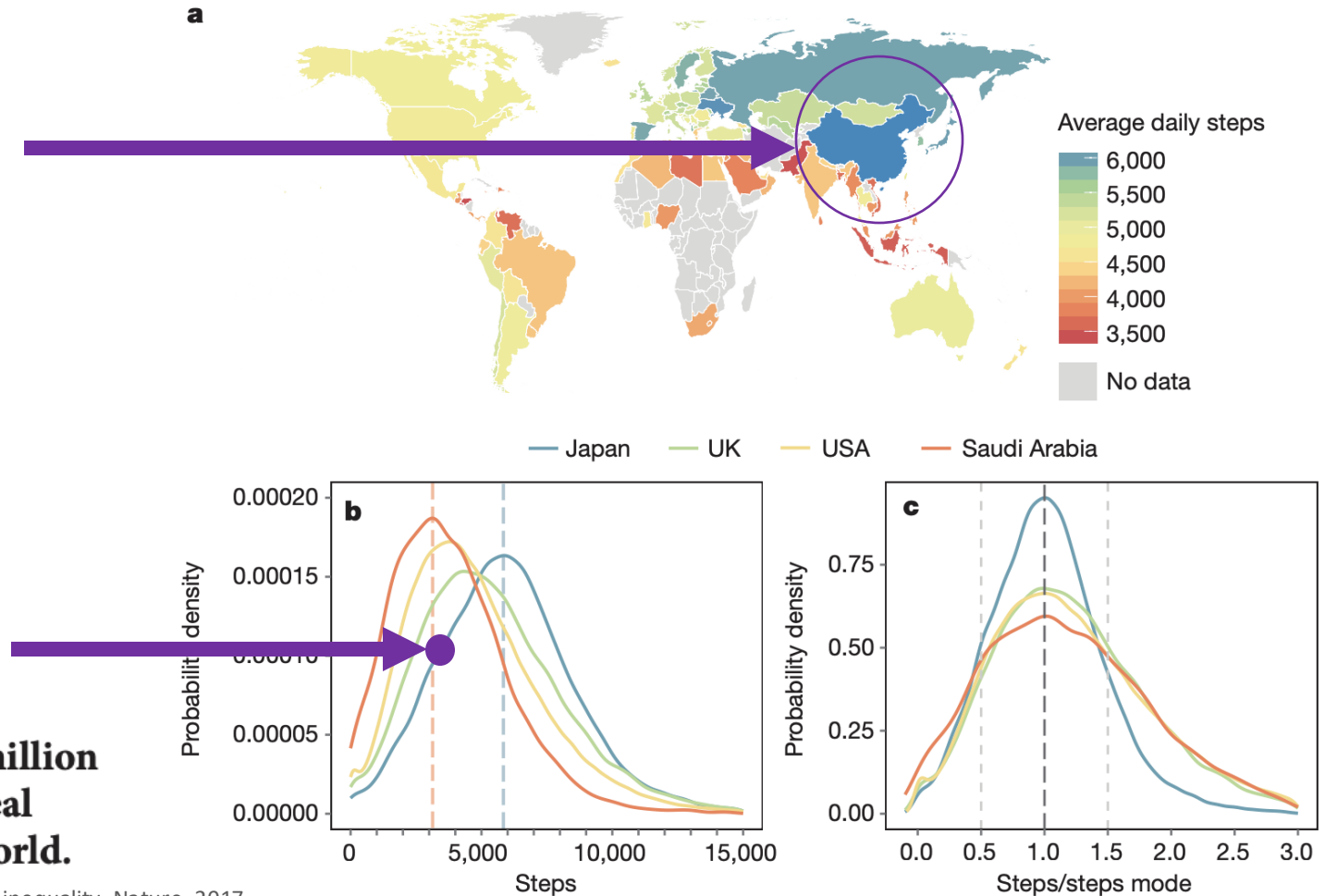


Figure 1 | Smartphone data from over 68 million days of activity by 717,527 individuals reveal variability in physical activity across the world.

Althoff et al., Large-scale physical activity data reveal worldwide activity inequality, Nature, 2017

Steps to storytelling with data

Think about the context

Who are you telling the story to?

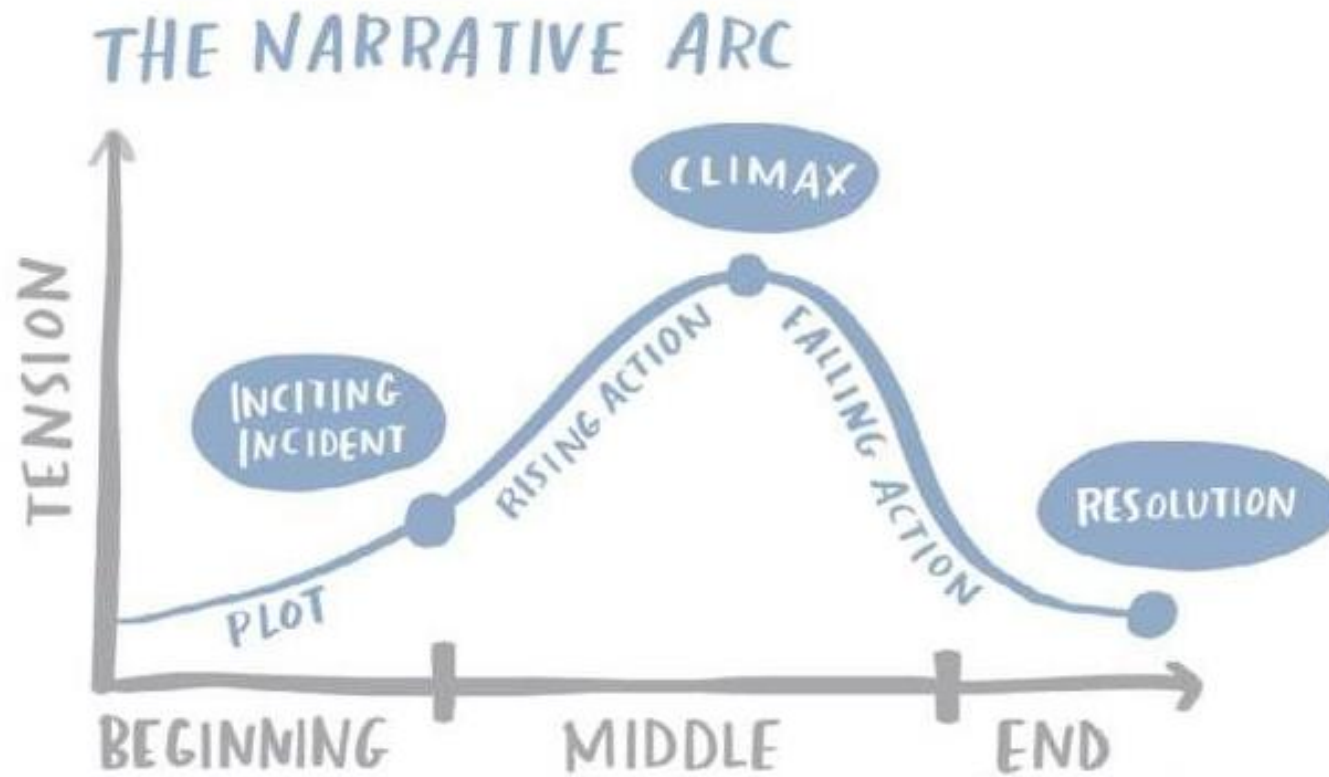
Craft the narrative

How are you telling the story?

Design appropriate visualizations

What are you telling the story with?

Constructing the narrative



<https://www.storytellingwithdata.com/>

The beginning: set the stage

Setting: when and where does the story take place?

Main character: who is driving the action?

Imbalance: Why is it necessary, what has changed?

Balance: What do you want to see happen?

Solution: How will you bring about the changes?

The middle: show the data

Provide evidence through data

Incorporate external context or comparisons

Provide examples to illustrate the issue

Articulate what would happen if no action was taken

Discuss potential mitigations or solutions and benefits

Remind them they are in unique position to drive action

The ending: call to action

Tie it back to the beginning

Recap problems and resulting need for action

Reiterate sense of urgency

Key takeaways and action items

Steps to storytelling with data

Think about the context

Who are you telling the story to?

Craft the narrative

How are you telling the story?

Design appropriate visualizations

What are you telling the story with?

Visualization Design

How do we design “good” visualizations?

What makes a good visualization?

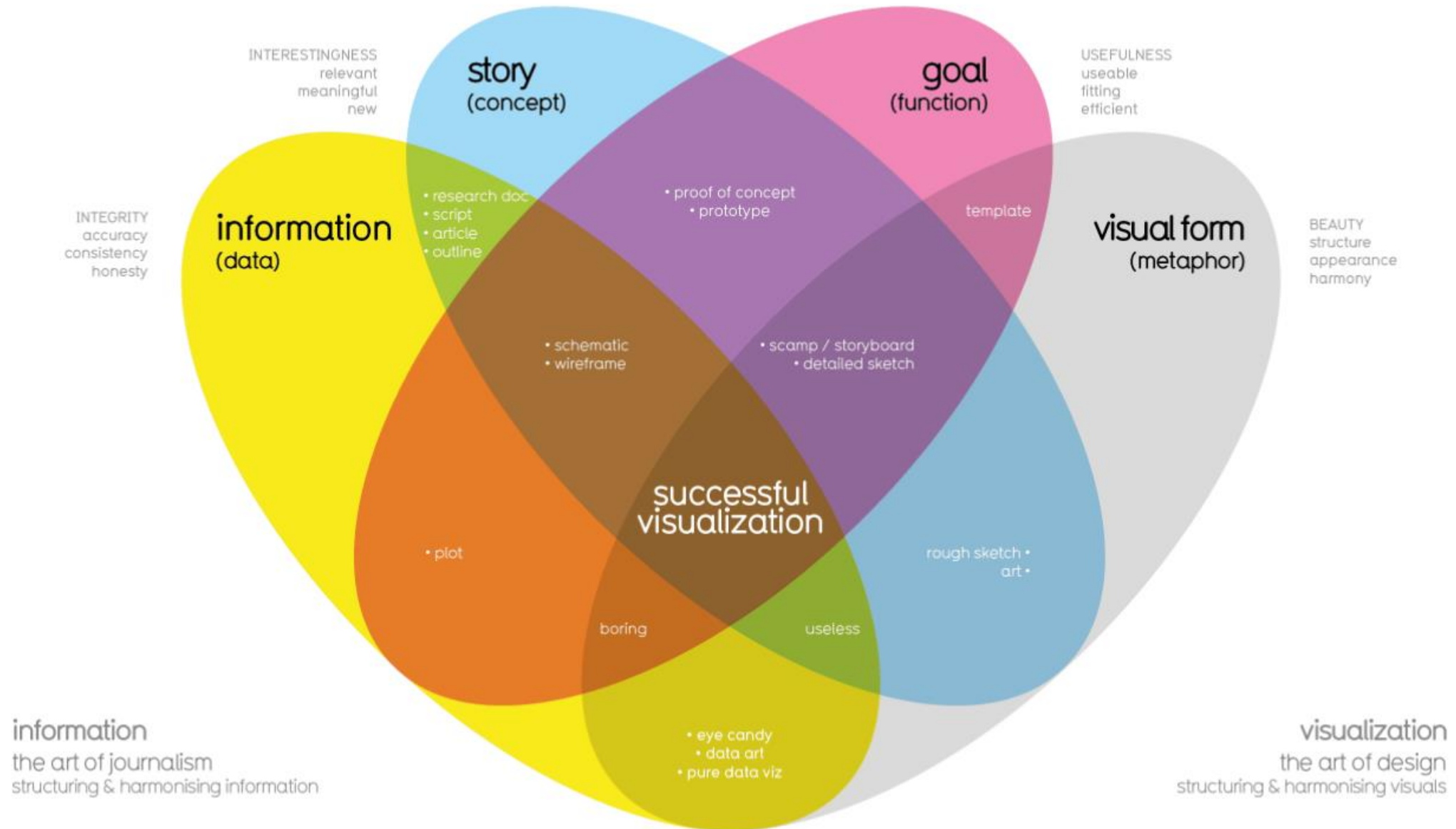
Science

Art

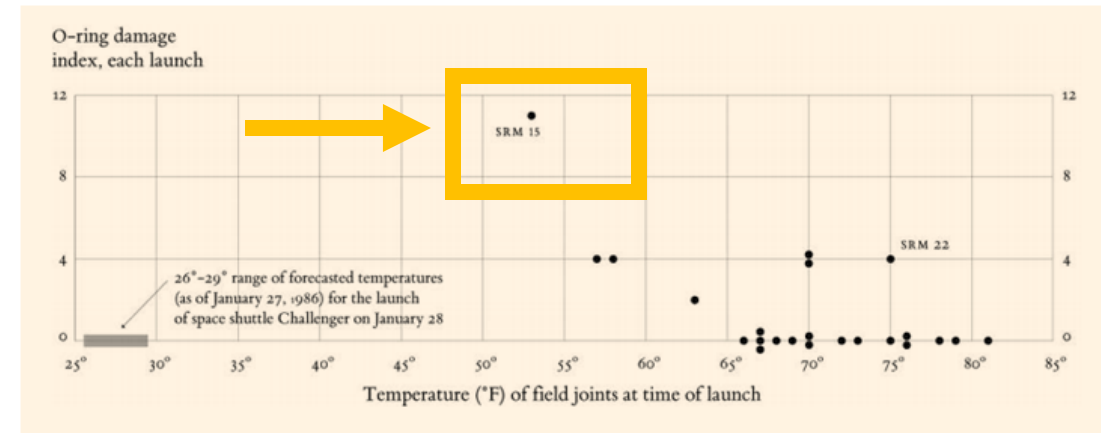
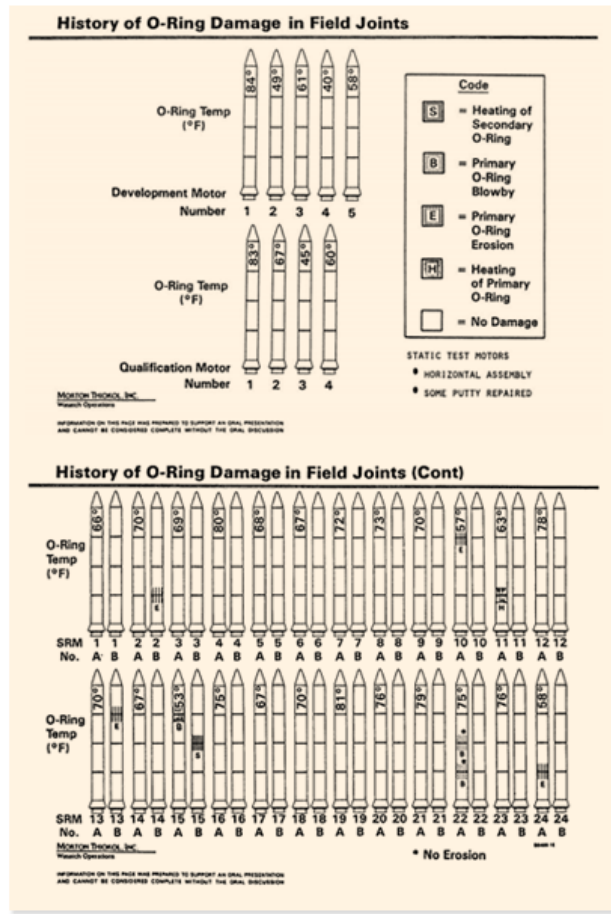


What Makes a Good Visualization?

explicit (implicit)



Critique by redesign

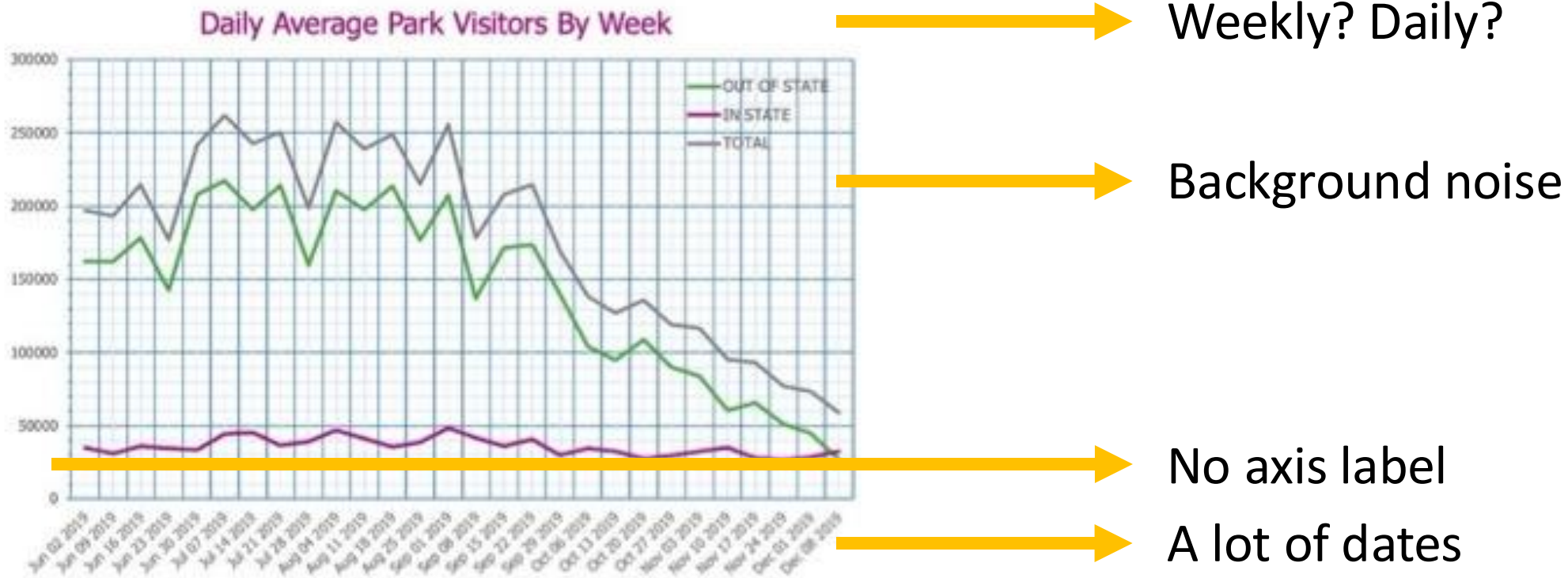


Edward Tufte's redesign of the same chart showing O-Ring failures.

Chart shown to the presidential commission investigation on the Space Shuttle Challenger in 1986. The chart shows the history of O-Ring failures

https://medium.com/@hint_fm/design-and-redesign-4ab77206cf9

Identify and eliminate clutter

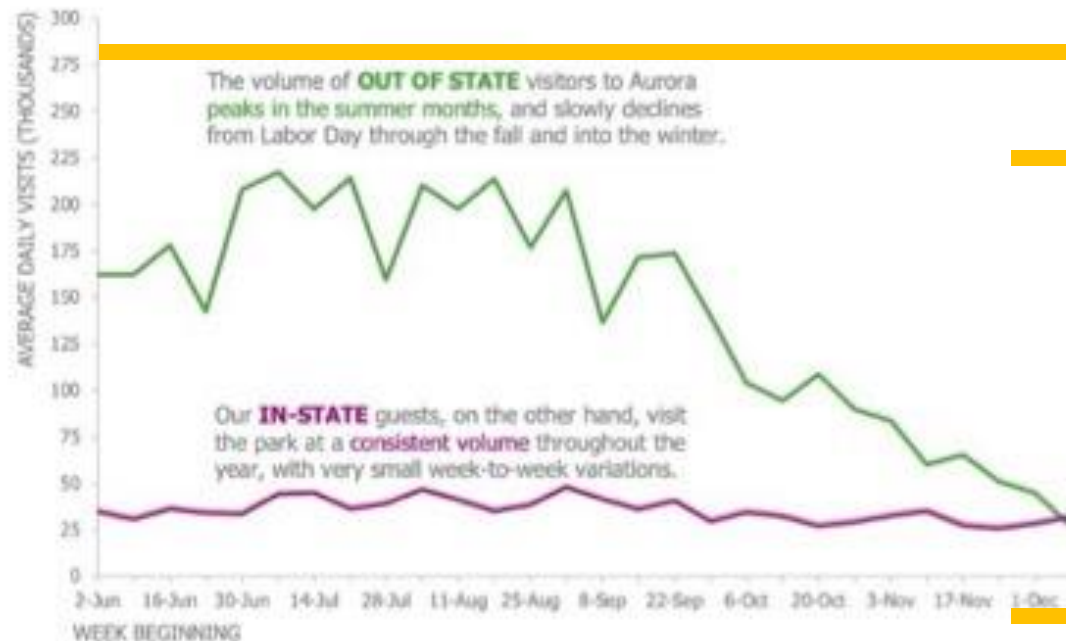


<https://www.storytellingwithdata.com/>

Identify and eliminate clutter

Daily visitors to Aurora Park in summer/fall 2019

VALUES ARE CALCULATED WEEKLY AS A 7-DAY AVERAGE



More explanation

Label + new units

Removed background

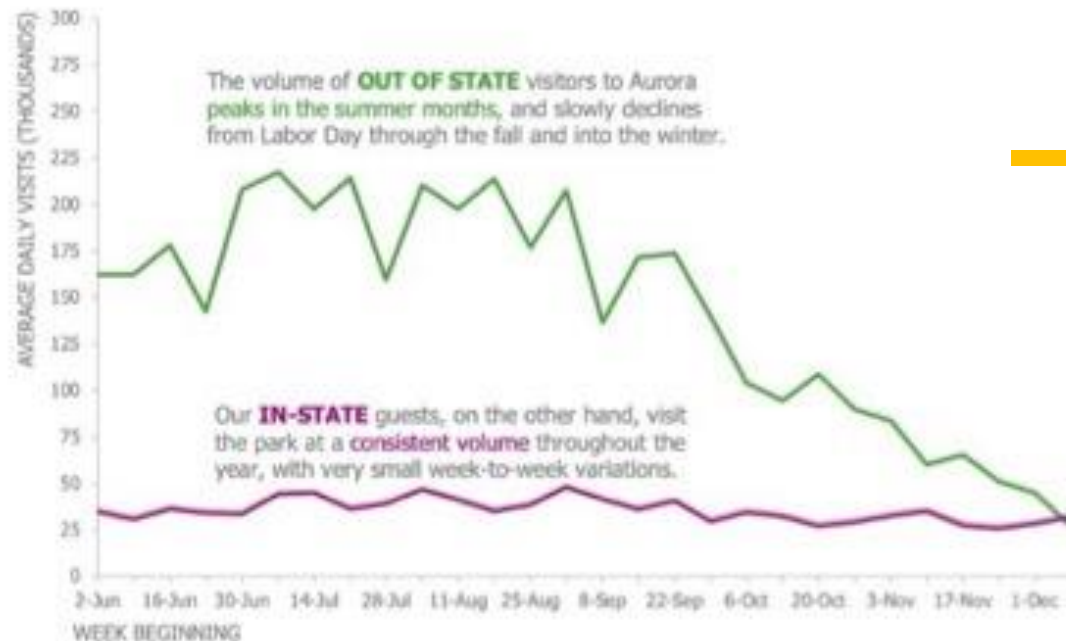
Fewer dates + label

<https://www.storytellingwithdata.com/>

Identify and eliminate clutter

Daily visitors to Aurora Park in summer/fall 2019

VALUES ARE CALCULATED WEEKLY AS A 7-DAY AVERAGE



→ Inline legend + summary

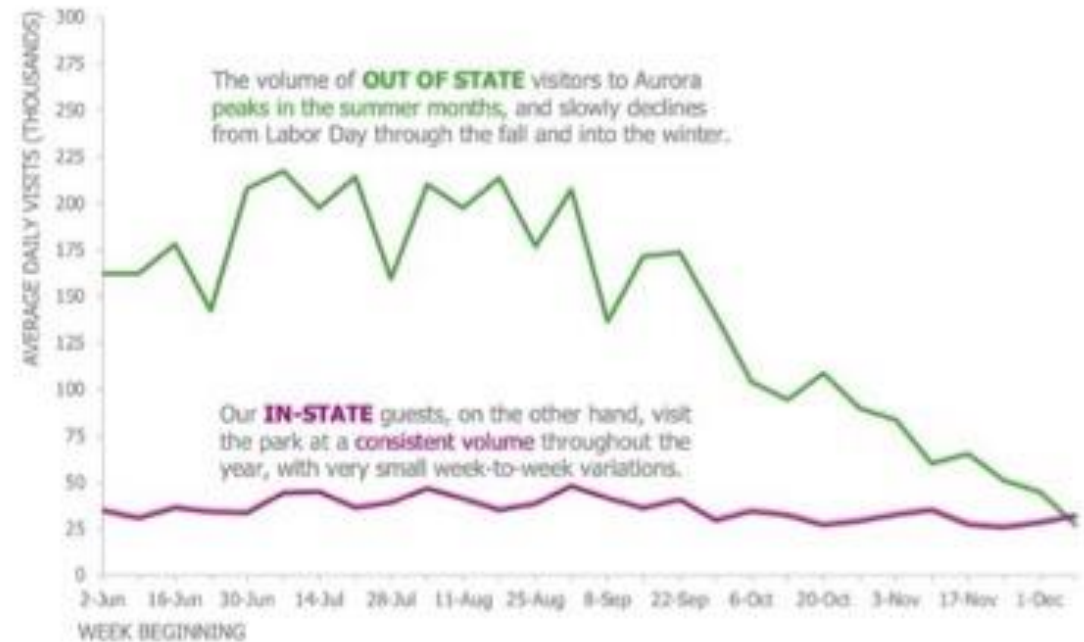
<https://www.storytellingwithdata.com/>

Identify and eliminate clutter



Daily visitors to Aurora Park in summer/fall 2019

VALUES ARE CALCULATED WEEKLY AS A 7-DAY AVERAGE

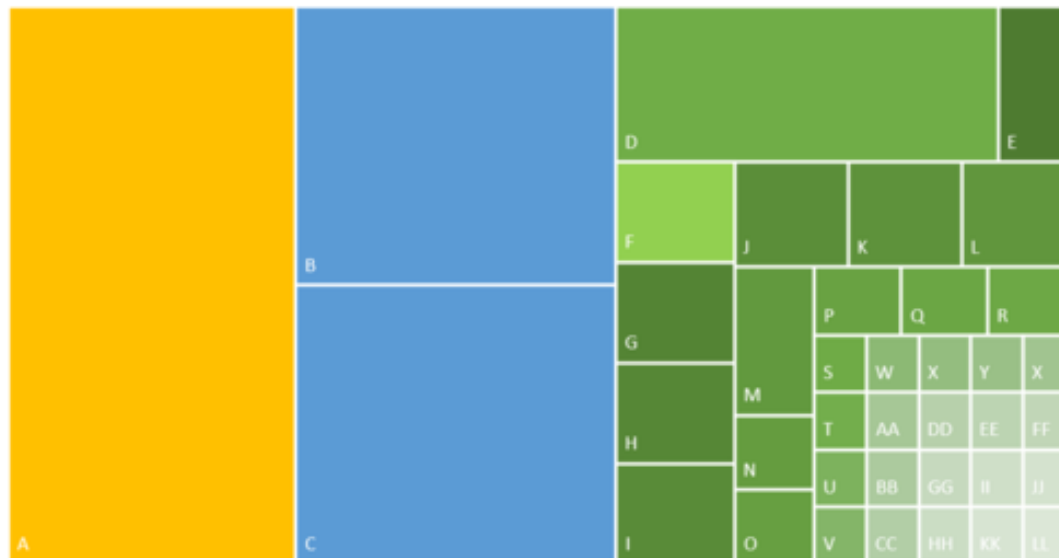


<https://www.storytellingwithdata.com/>

Use visualizations that are easy to read

Returns driven by Customer A

Returns and dollars claimed
by customer



30% CUSTOMER A LEADS RETURN ACTIVITY

Customer A leads in the most returns and dollars claimed over the past quarter.

Customer A's large percentage of dollars is coming from product categories X & Y. This is markedly different from

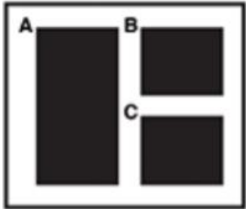
Customers B & C, which have a smaller gap between returns & dollars claimed.

CALL TO ACTION: Let's discuss what is different about Customer A.
What are our next steps?

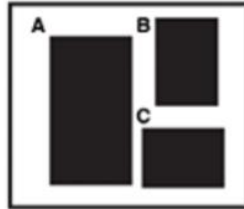
<https://www.storytellingwithdata.com/>

Keep consistent order and alignment

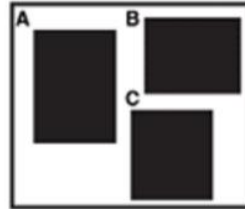
Good



Bad



Ugly



Good



Bad



Ugly



Keep consistent color

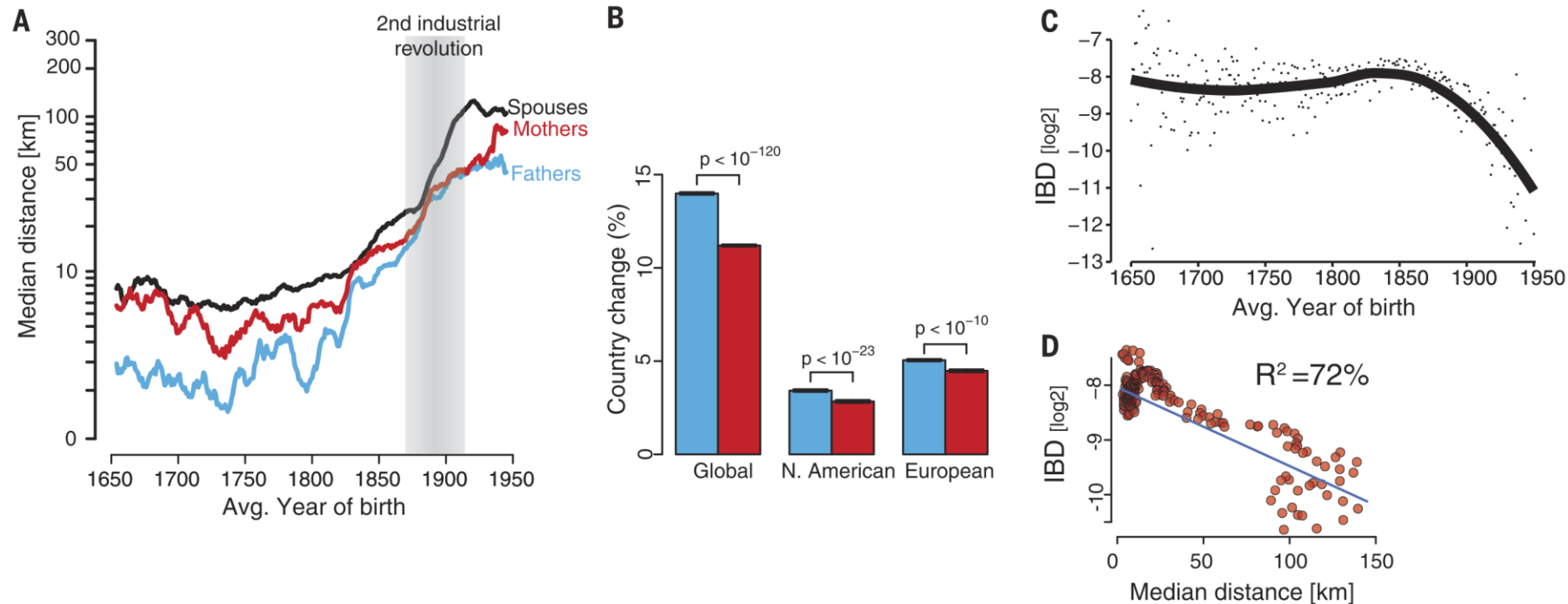


Fig. 4. Analysis of familial dispersion. (A) Median distance [$\log_{10}(x + 1)$] of father-offspring places of birth (cyan), mother-offspring (red), and marital radius (black) as a function of time (average year of birth). (B) Rate of change in the country of birth for father-offspring (cyan) or mother-offspring (red) stratified by major geographic areas. (C) Average IBD ($\log_2$) between

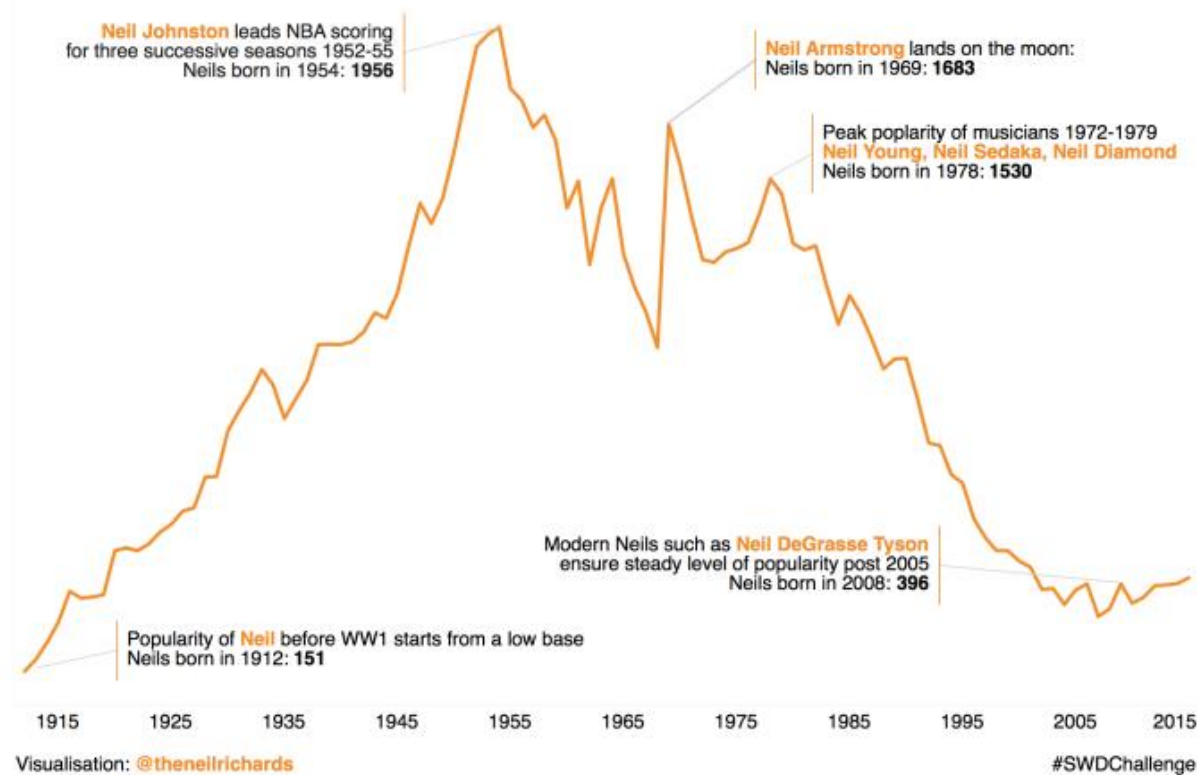
couples as a function of average year of birth. Individual dots represent the measured average per year; the black line denotes the smooth trend using locally weighted regression. (D) IBD of couples as a function of marital radius. Each dot represents a year between 1650 to 1950. The blue line denotes the best linear regression line in log-log space.

Kaplanis et al., Quantitative analysis of population-scale family trees with millions of relatives, Science, 2018.

Contextualize your data

Rise and Fall of the name **Neil** in the USA Births 1912-2015

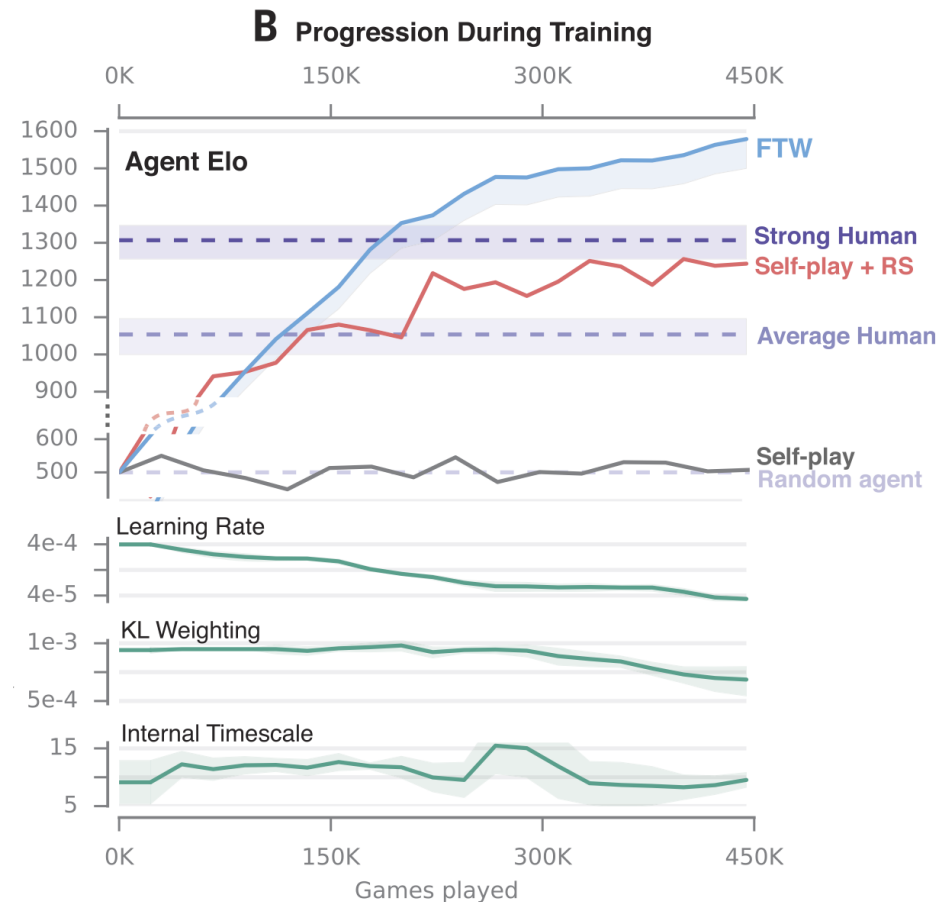
Source: data.gov



Notable events

<https://questionsindataviz.com/2018/01/06/is-white-space-always-your-friend/>

Contextualize your data



Comparison to humans

Jaderberg et al., Human-level performance in 3D multiplayer games with population-based reinforcement learning, Science, 2019.

Draw attention...really draw attention

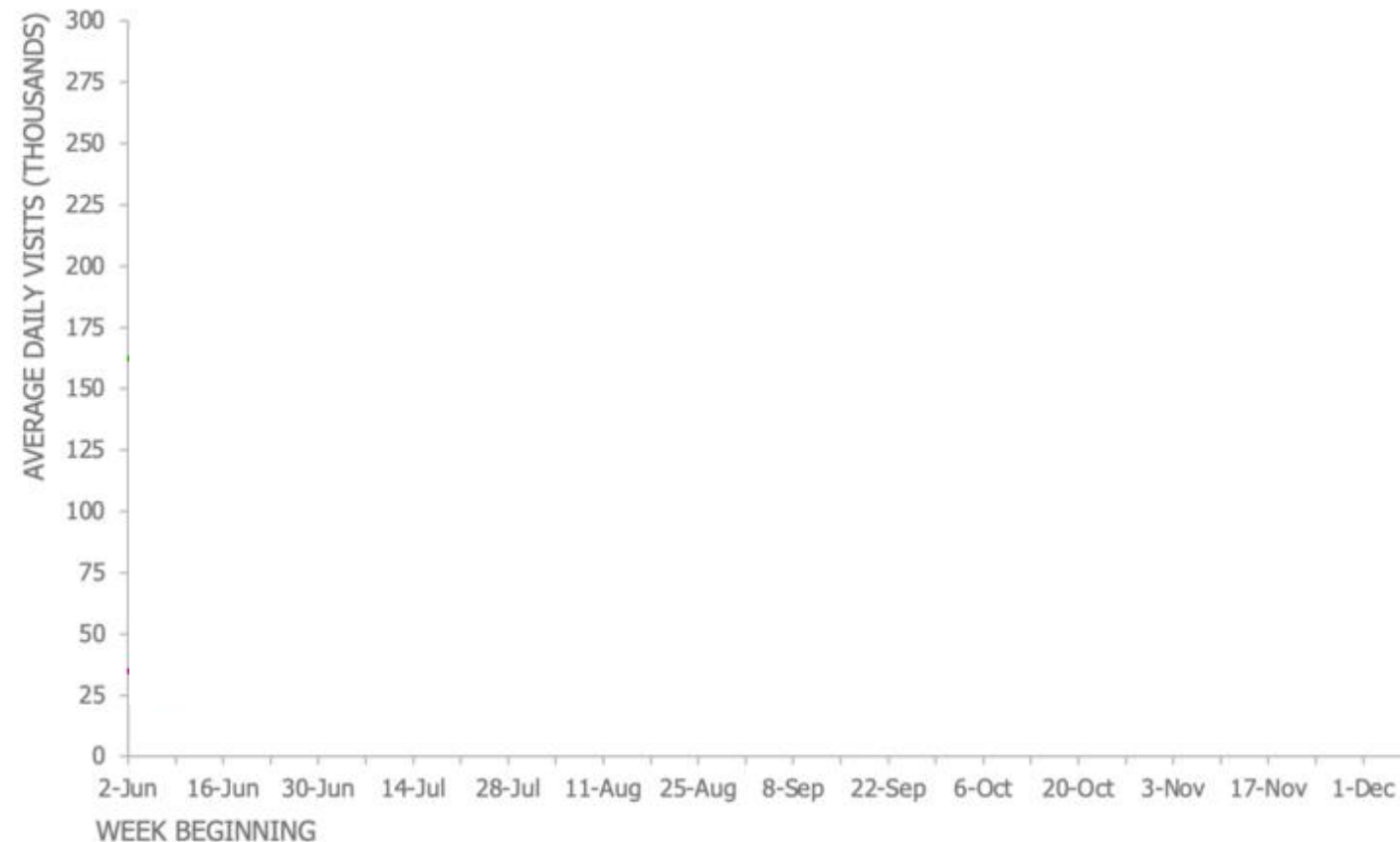
Daily visitors to Aurora Park in summer/fall 2019

VALUES ARE CALCULATED WEEKLY AS A 7-DAY AVERAGE

Draw attention...really draw attention

Daily visitors to Aurora Park in summer/fall 2019

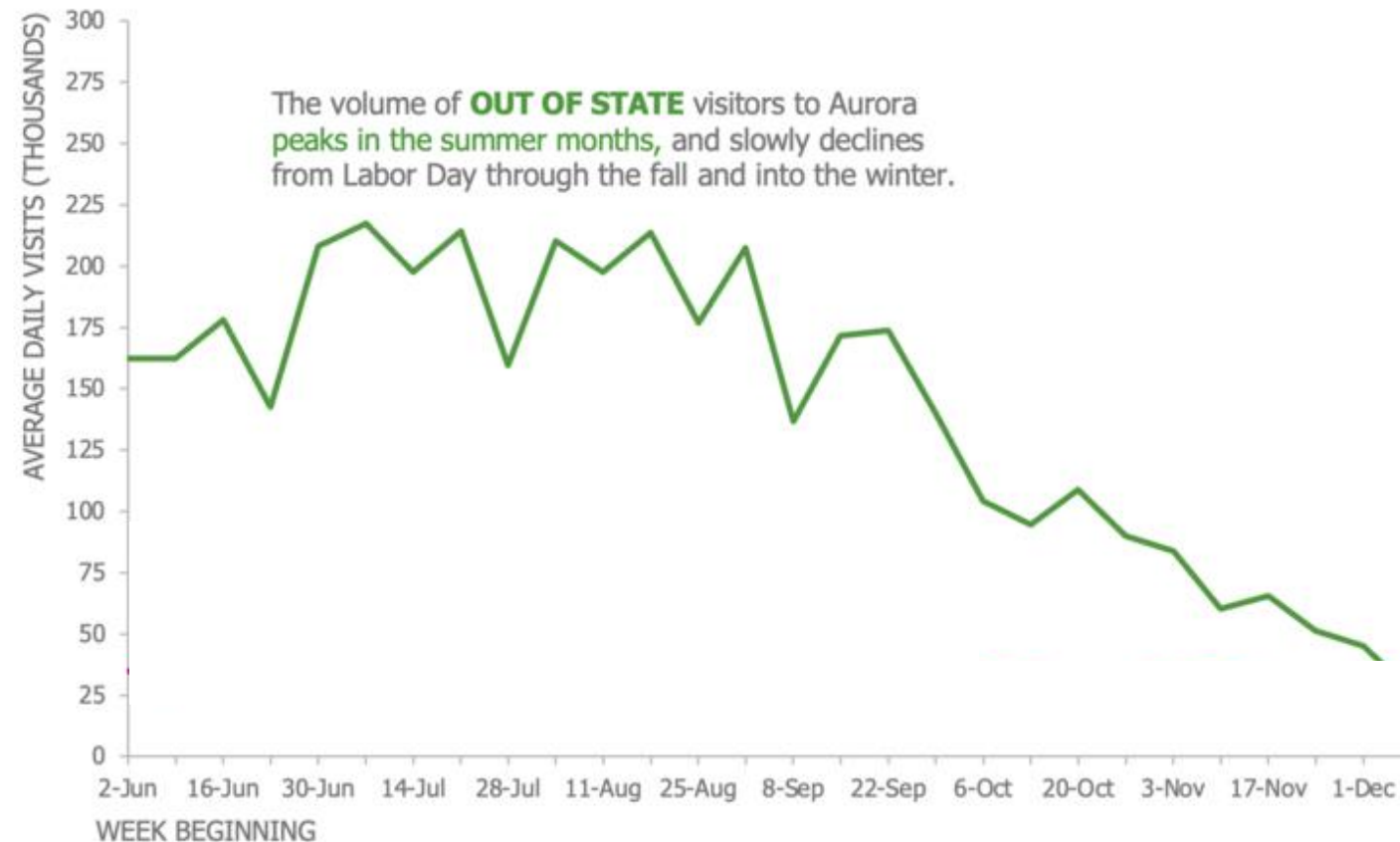
VALUES ARE CALCULATED WEEKLY AS A 7-DAY AVERAGE



Draw attention...really draw attention

Daily visitors to Aurora Park in summer/fall 2019

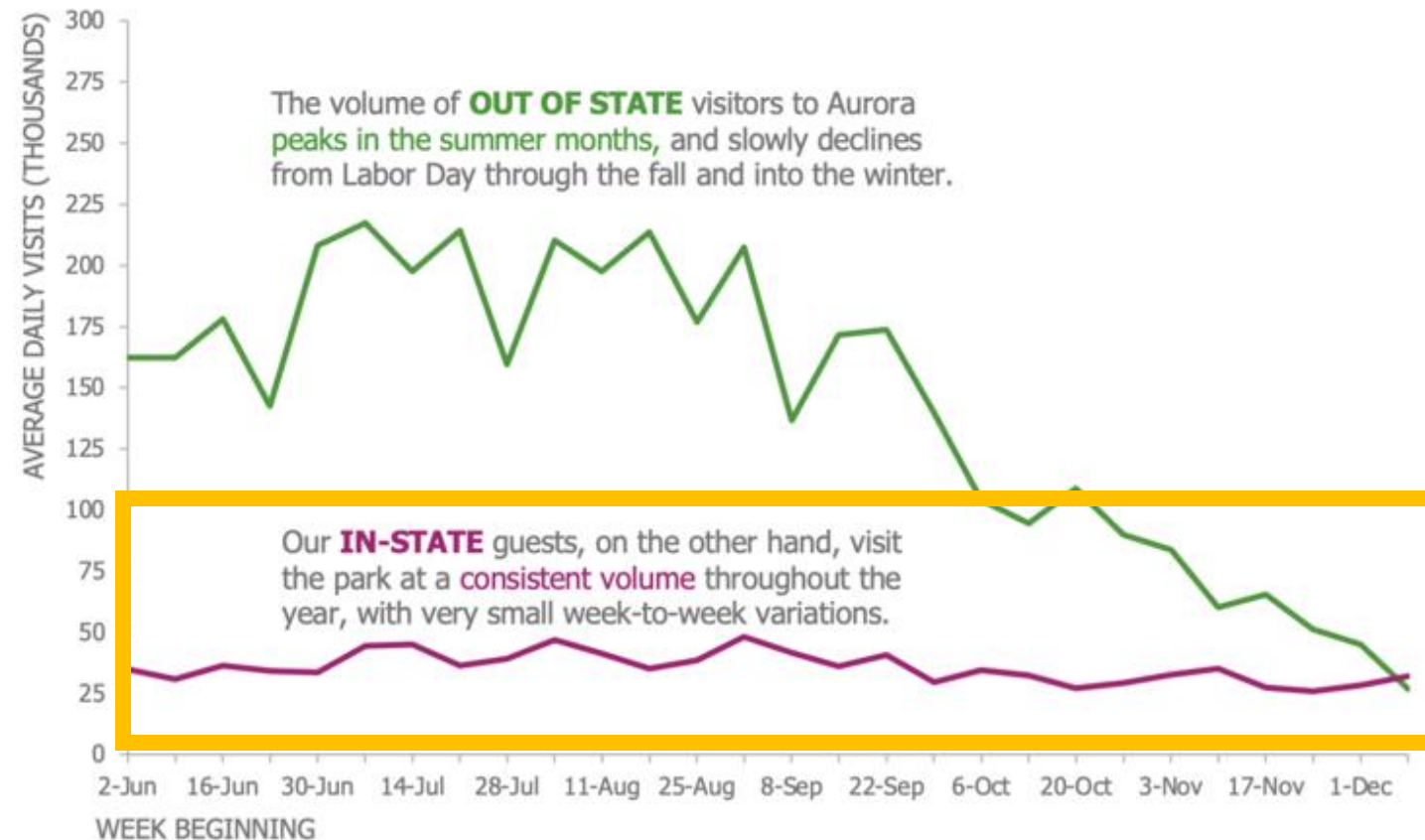
VALUES ARE CALCULATED WEEKLY AS A 7-DAY AVERAGE



Draw attention...really draw attention

Daily visitors to Aurora Park in summer/fall 2019

VALUES ARE CALCULATED WEEKLY AS A 7-DAY AVERAGE



Design and redesign

Grades by learning method

GRADE EARNED	IN-PERSON		DISTANCE
	2019	2020	2020
A	59%	56%	38%
B	23%	16%	12%
C	9%	10%	9%
D	4%	7%	6%
F	5%	11%	35%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%

DATA SOURCE: The Times Record/Roane County Reporter | Feb 18, 2021
Compares high school student grade distribution for the second 9-week period of the term

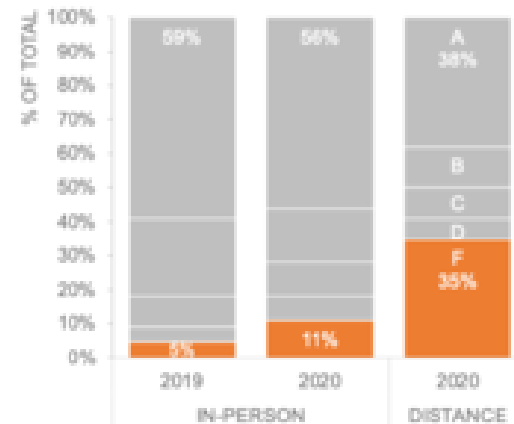
Data source: *The Times Record/Roane County Reporter* | Feb 18, 2021
Compares high school student grade distribution for the second 9-week period of the term

Grades by learning method



Distance learning affected academic performance

Grades by learning method



A higher proportion of students earned "F"s during distance learning, compared to in-person learning.

<https://www.storytellingwithdata.com/>

Takeaways

Four essential components of a good visualization
(information, story, goal, and visual form)

Design, redesign, and critique by redesign

Eliminate unnecessary clutter and noise

Use visualizations that are easy to read

Keep consistent order and alignment

Be thoughtful about the use of color

Contextualize your data

Draw attention to the key points about your data

5 Minute Break

Prototyping

Storytelling with your data

Goal: Design a key visualization for your project!

NOTE: Pretend you have all the data you want

Ideate (5 minutes) – within project group

Brainstorm key points you want to communicate from your analysis

Design (10 minutes) – individually

Set the context (audience, context, key point)

Design a visualization and its variations

Critique (5 minutes) – individually

Find someone from another group to swap your designs with

Pretend you're the target audience

Evaluate their design and provide redesign ideas

Storytelling with your data

Discuss how it went:

- Who was your audience?

- What point were you trying to make?

- What worked and didn't work?

What challenges did you encounter in your design?

What compromises did you have to make?

Did your audience “get” your design? why or why not?

What redesign recommendations did you give/receive?

Track your participation here:



Visualization for Papers

How do you create effective figures for scientific papers?

Why do figures matter?

Figures are often the first part of research papers examined by editors and your peers

Informative and well-designed figures:

- Convey facts, ideas, and relationships far more clearly and concisely than text
- Provide a means for discovering/quantifying patterns, trends, and comparisons
- Help the audience better understand the objective and results of your research

Why are figures difficult to design?

It doesn't come with you to explain it

It's the first thing people look at with zero context/background

There's no animation or interactivity

Design space is limited

Different types of visual structure

Interdisciplinary journal papers:

Nature, Science, PNAS, etc.

The focus is on new **scientific insights** and demonstrating the importance of those insights to advance science

Core CS conference papers:

KDD, WebConf, NeurIPS, ICML, ICLR, AAAI, etc.

The focus is on the development of **new methods** and their evaluation and comparison on benchmark datasets

Interdisciplinary journal papers

Figure 1: Dataset, approach and key result
Impress your audience!

Figure 2: Key result, detailed and unpacked

Figure 3: Orthogonal evidence supporting results

Figure 4: Orthogonal evidence supporting results

Supplementary Figures: Methodological contributions, algorithms, robustness analyses

Core CS conference papers

Figure 1: Key methodological contribution

Focus on most important information

Impress your audience!

Is your method/system the fastest, the largest, the most accurate?

What is the hard problem that your method solves?

What makes your method different from related work?

Figure 2-3: Overview and algorithmic details

Inputs + Data transformation + Outputs

Show details about data transformations:

Graph convolutions, neural architectures, etc.

Figure 4+: Results

Impress your audience



Abstract

Supervised learning on molecules has incredible potential to be useful in chemistry, drug discovery, and materials science. Luckily, several promising and closely related neural network models invariant to molecular symmetries have already been described in the literature. These models learn a message passing algorithm and aggregation procedure to compute a function of their entire input graph. At this point, the next step is to find a particularly effective variant of this general approach and apply it to chemical prediction benchmarks until we either solve them or reach the limits of the approach. In this paper, we reformulate existing models into a single common framework we call Message Passing Neural Networks (MPNNs) and explore additional novel variations within this framework. Using MPNNs we demonstrate state of the art results on an important molecular property prediction benchmark; these results are strong enough that we believe future work should focus on datasets with larger molecules or more accurate ground truth labels.

Gilmer et al., Neural Message Passing for Quantum Chemistry, ICML, 2017.

Brag about the speed

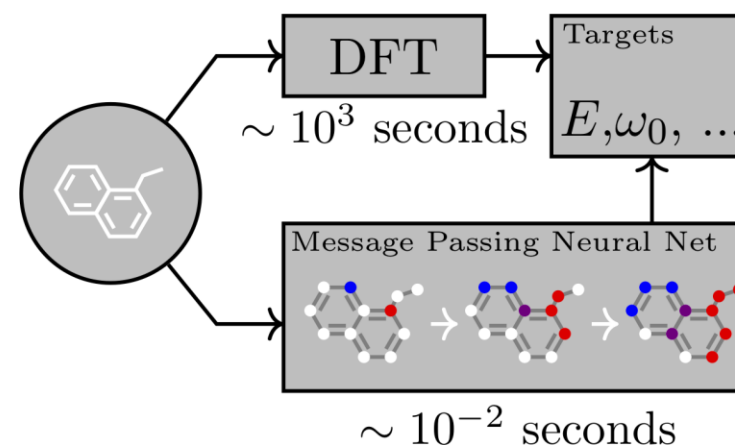


Figure 1. A Message Passing Neural Network predicts quantum properties of an organic molecule by modeling a computationally expensive DFT calculation.

“Our method is so fast! Our paper should be published at ICML!”

Abstract

Large cascades can develop in online social networks as people share information with one another. Though simple re-share cascades have been studied extensively, the full range of cascading behaviors on social media is much more diverse. Here we study how *diffusion protocols*, or the social exchanges that enable information transmission, affect cascade growth, analogous to the way communication protocols define how information is transmitted from one point to another. Studying 98 of the **largest information cascades on Facebook**, we find a wide range of diffusion protocols – from cascading reshares of images, which use a simple protocol of tapping a single button for propagation, to the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge, whose diffusion protocol involved individuals creating and posting a video, and then nominating specific others to do the same. We find recurring classes of diffusion protocols, and identify two key counterbalancing factors in the construction of these protocols, with implications for a cascade’s growth: the effort required to participate in the cascade, and the social cost of staying on the sidelines. Protocols requiring greater individual effort slow down a cascade’s propagation, while those imposing a greater social cost of not participating increase the cascade’s adoption likelihood. The predictability of transmission also varies with protocol. But regardless of mechanism, the cascades in our analysis all have a similar reproduction number (≈ 1.8), meaning that lower rates of exposure can be offset with higher per-exposure rates of adoption. Last, we show how a **cascade’s structure can not only differentiate these protocols, but also be modeled through branching processes**. Together, these findings provide a framework for understanding how a wide variety of information cascades can achieve substantial adoption across a network.

Cheng et al., Do Diffusion Protocols Govern Cascade Growth?, ICWSM, 2018.

Brag about the data size

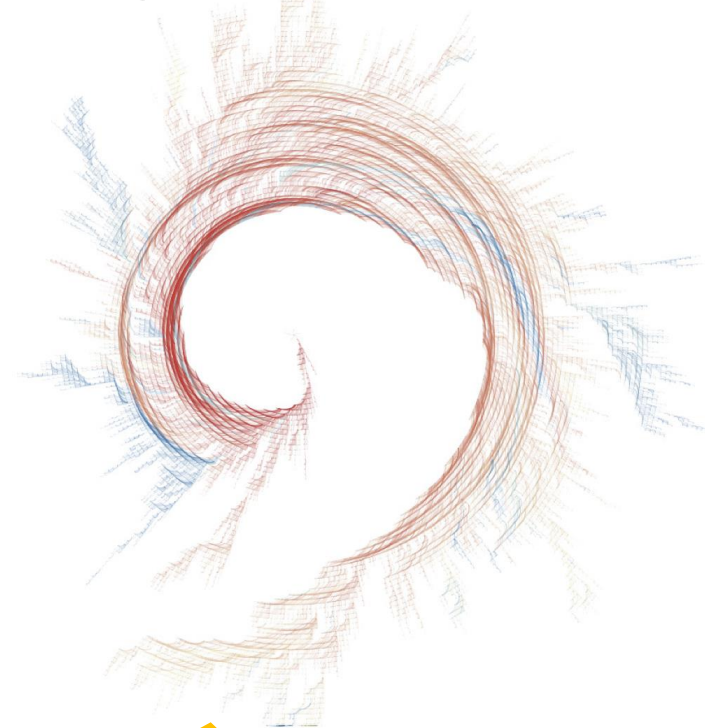


Figure 1: The diffusion tree of a cascade with a volunteer diffusion protocol. The tree shows the path of individuals who posted music from an album.

“Cascades can be so large! Despite that, we know how to study them! Our paper should be published at ICWSM!”

ABSTRACT

Cascades of information-sharing are a primary mechanism by which content reaches its audience on social media, and an active line of research has studied how such cascades, which form as content is reshared from person to person, develop and subside. In this paper, we perform a large-scale analysis of cascades on Facebook over significantly longer time scales, and **find that a more complex picture emerges, in which many large cascades *recur*, exhibiting multiple bursts of popularity with periods of quiescence in between.** We characterize recurrence by measuring the time elapsed between bursts, their overlap and proximity in the social network, and the diversity in the demographics of individuals participating in each peak. We discover that content virality, as revealed by its initial popularity, is a main driver of recurrence, with the availability of multiple copies of that content helping to spark new bursts. Still, beyond a certain popularity of content, the rate of recurrence drops as cascades start exhausting the population of interested individuals. We reproduce these observed patterns in a simple model of content recurrence simulated on a real social network. Using only characteristics of a cascade's initial burst, we demonstrate strong performance in predicting whether it will recur in the future.

Keywords: Cascade prediction; content recurrence; information diffusion; memes; virality.

Cheng et al., Do Cascades Recur?, WWW, 2016.

Answer the question in title



Figure 1: An example of a image meme that has recurred, or resurfaced in popularity multiple times, sometimes as a continuation of the same copy, and sometimes as a new copy of the same meme (example copies are shown as thumbnails). This recurrence appears as multiple peaks in the plot of reshares as a function of time.

“Cascades can be so complex! Despite that, we know how to study them! Our paper should be published at WWW!”

ABSTRACT

Deep learning models for graphs have achieved strong performance for the task of node classification. Despite their proliferation, currently there is no study of their robustness to adversarial attacks. Yet, in domains where they are likely to be used, e.g. the web, adversaries are common. **Can deep learning models for graphs be easily fooled? In this work, we introduce the first study of adversarial attacks on attributed graphs, specifically focusing on models exploiting ideas of graph convolutions.** In addition to attacks at test time, we tackle the more challenging class of poisoning/causative attacks, which focus on the training phase of a machine learning model. We generate adversarial perturbations targeting the *node's features* and the *graph structure*, thus, taking the dependencies between instances in account. Moreover, we ensure that the perturbations remain *unnoticeable* by preserving important data characteristics. To cope with the underlying discrete domain we propose an efficient algorithm NETTACK exploiting incremental computations. Our experimental study shows that accuracy of node classification significantly drops even when performing only few perturbations. Even more, our attacks are transferable: the learned attacks generalize to other state-of-the-art node classification models and unsupervised approaches, and likewise are successful even when only limited knowledge about the graph is given.

Make a statement about the problem

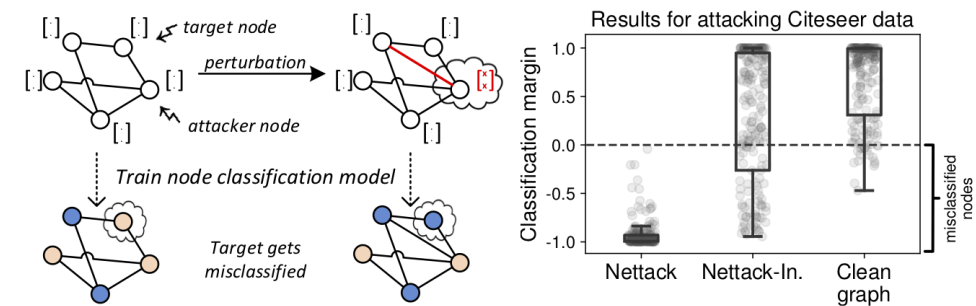


Figure 1: Small perturbations of the graph structure and node features lead to misclassification of the target.

“Yes, graph-based models for deep learning can be easily fooled. Here we show how devastating attacks can be.”

Practical guidelines

Sketch low-fidelity prototypes of your visualization

Understand visual hierarchy, prioritize information, group/categorize

Save raw data and results to a tsv/csv/binary file

Your figures will need **multiple rounds of editing**

Read in the data and design figures

You may need multiple tools to draw a figure

Practical guidelines

Save figures as PDF or other vector formats

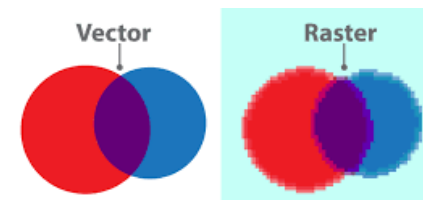
Raster images:

- Can't be dramatically resized (pixilation, distortion issues)
- When saved, they cannot be reopened and edited!

Vector images (e.g., PDF, EPS, AI, SVG):

- Remain editable!
- You can open them in Illustrator and edit text or any other element within the graphic
- Can be converted to a raster image but not vice-versa
- `plt.savefig('myfig.pdf')`

Only use raster format for web, Github repo, etc.



Bad Visualization

How do people misuse visualizations?

Superpower of visualization

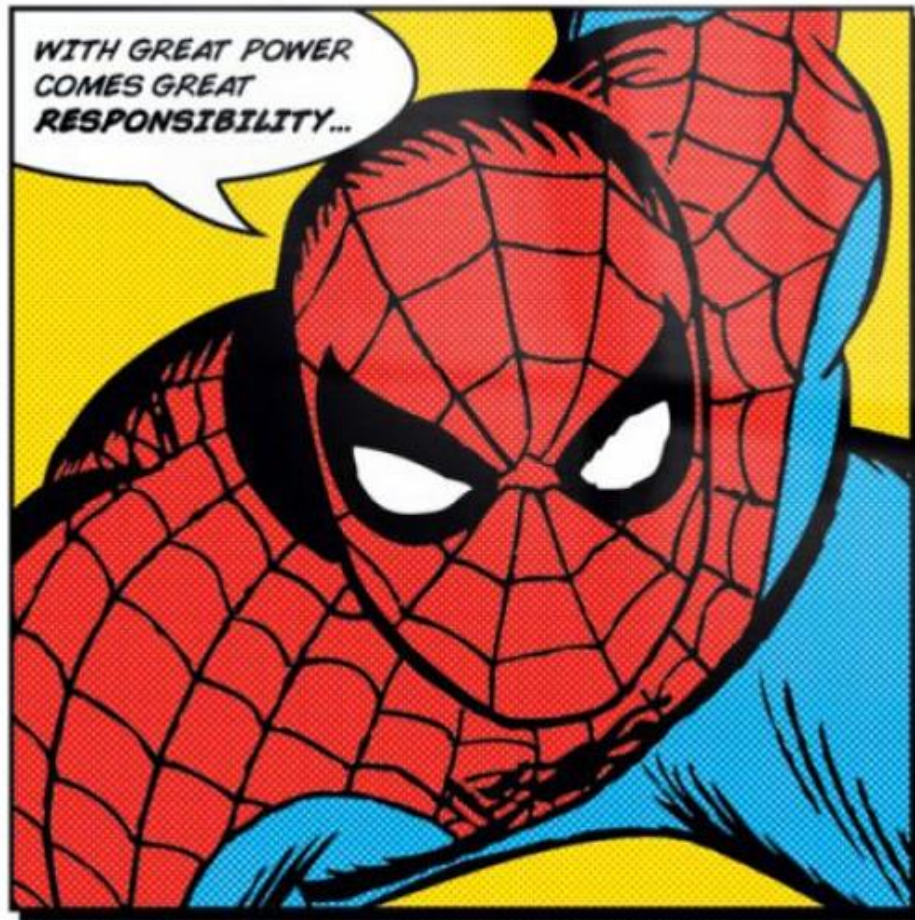
When applied effectively to promote data exploration, analysis, and insight, we will experience what Joseph Berkson called “**interocular traumatic impact**: a conclusion that hits us between the eyes.”

- Cleveland 1993



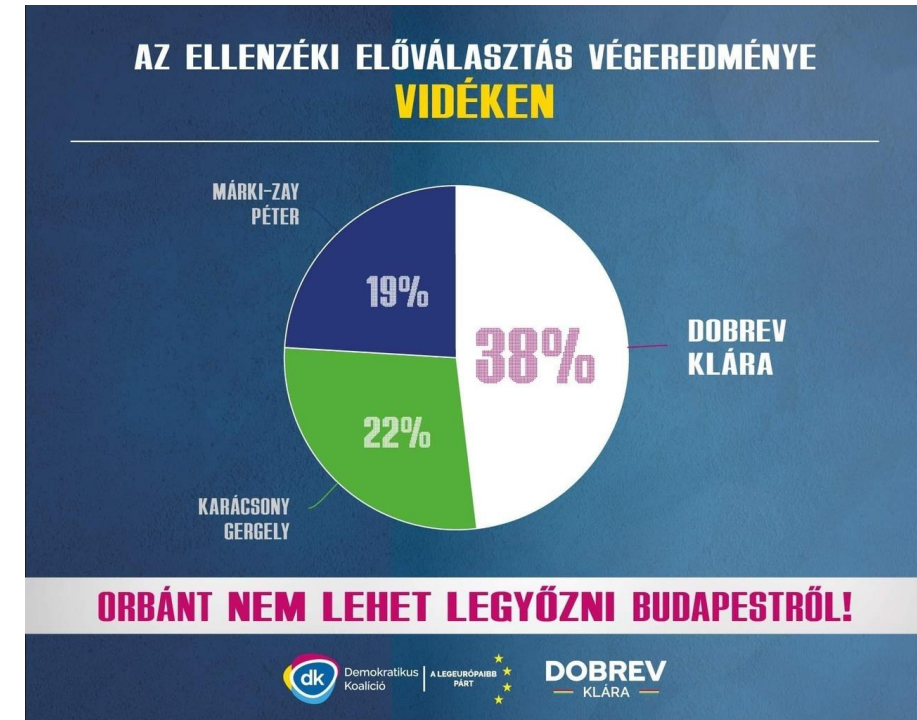
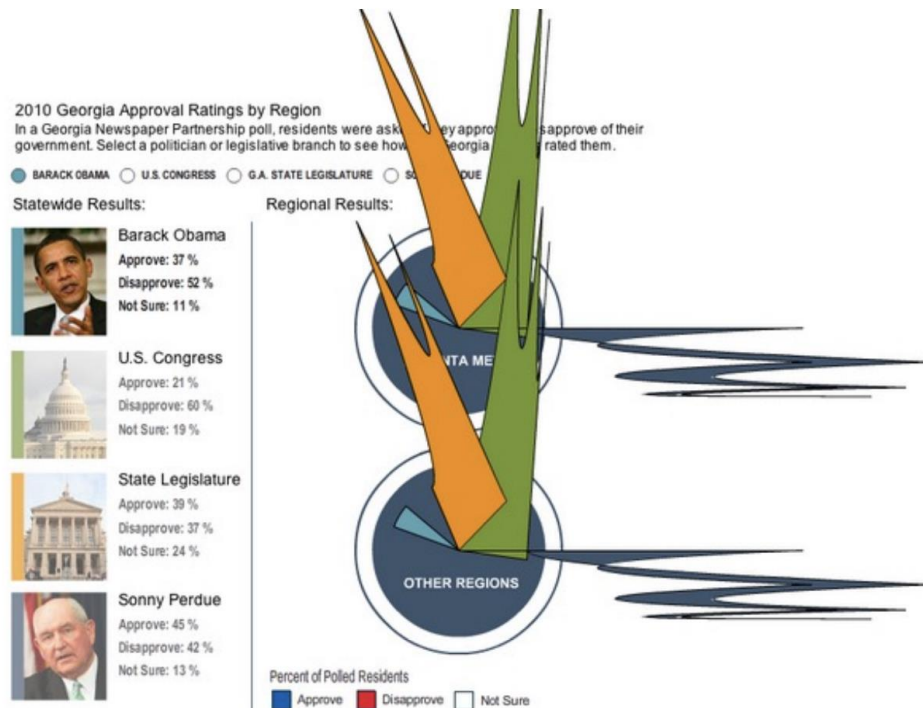
Empower understanding of data and analysis processes

Thou shall not create bad visualizations



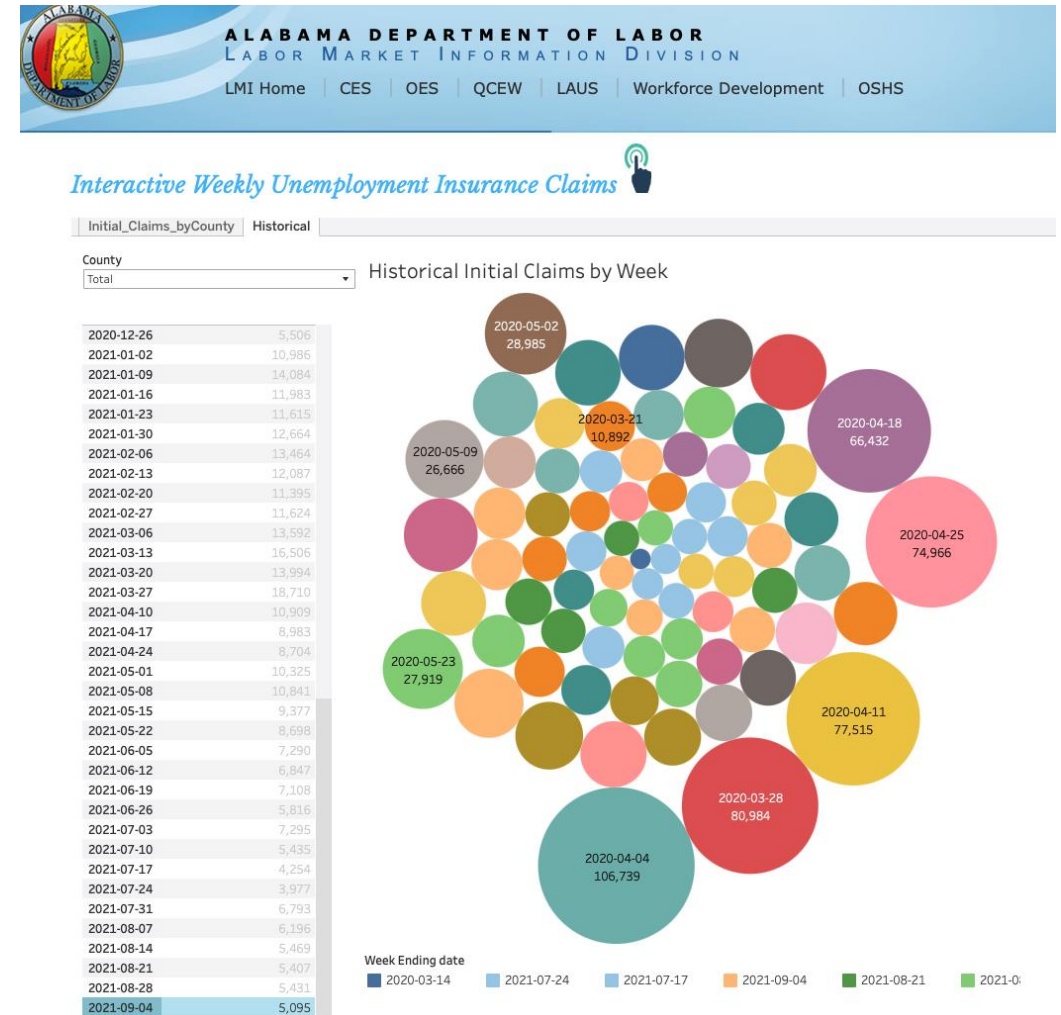
Incorrect visualizations

Bugs bugs bugs



Illegible visualizations

Plenty more at <https://viz.wtf/>



Deceptive visualizations

Lie factor

Scale manipulation

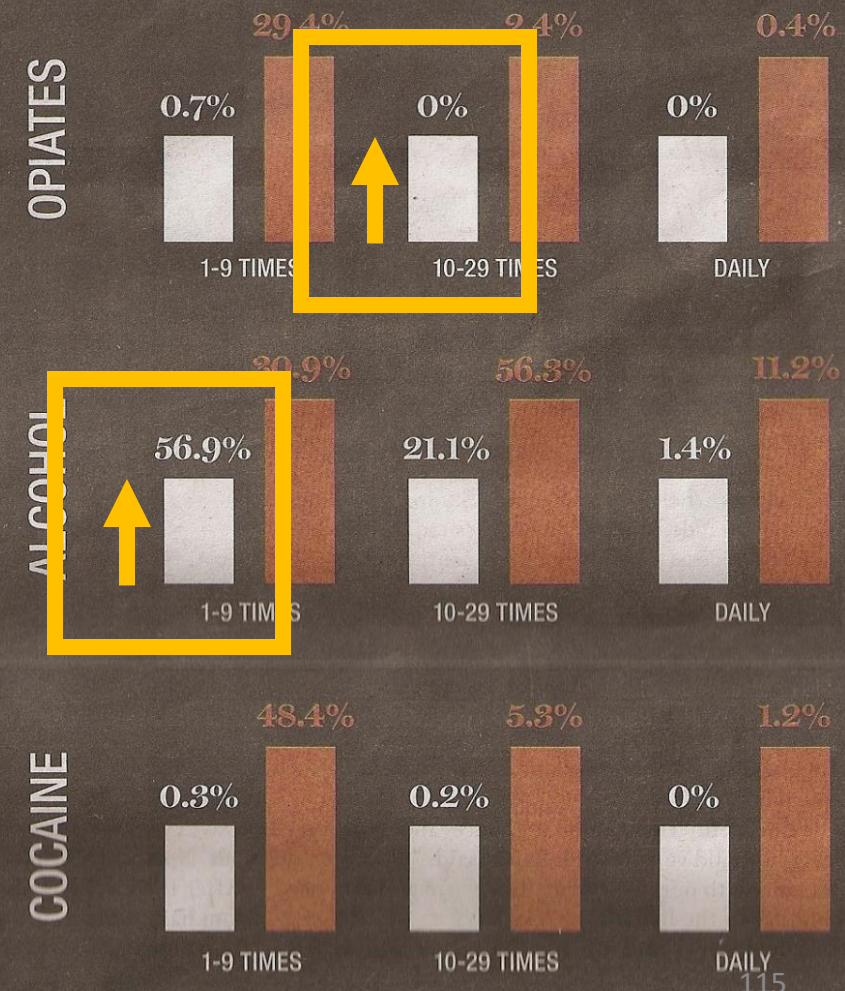
Convention manipulation

Lie factor

The size of the effect shown in the graphic should correspond to the size of the effect in the data

BY THE NUMBERS

The National Collegiate Health Assessment was taken by 1,000 UCSB students in Spring 2009. Participants were asked how frequently they used substances over the past 30 days. Numbers in white reflect actual student use, while red numbers indicate perceived substance use. The average age of participants was 20 years and approximately 99 percent were full-time students.



Lie factor



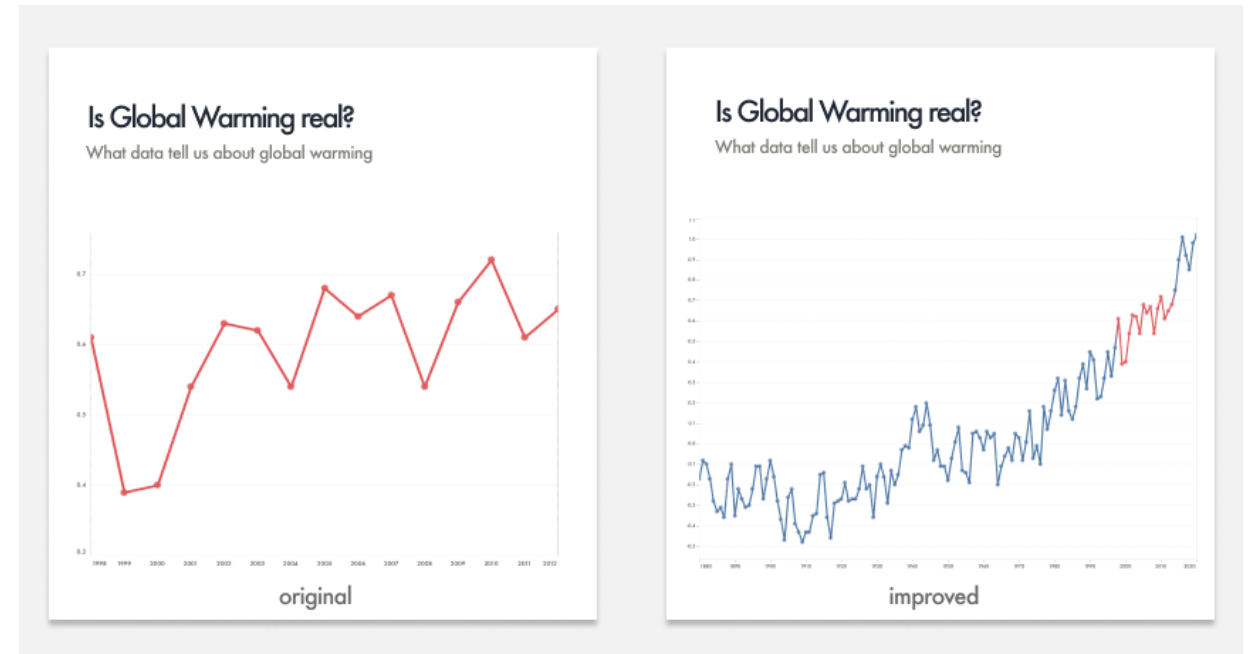
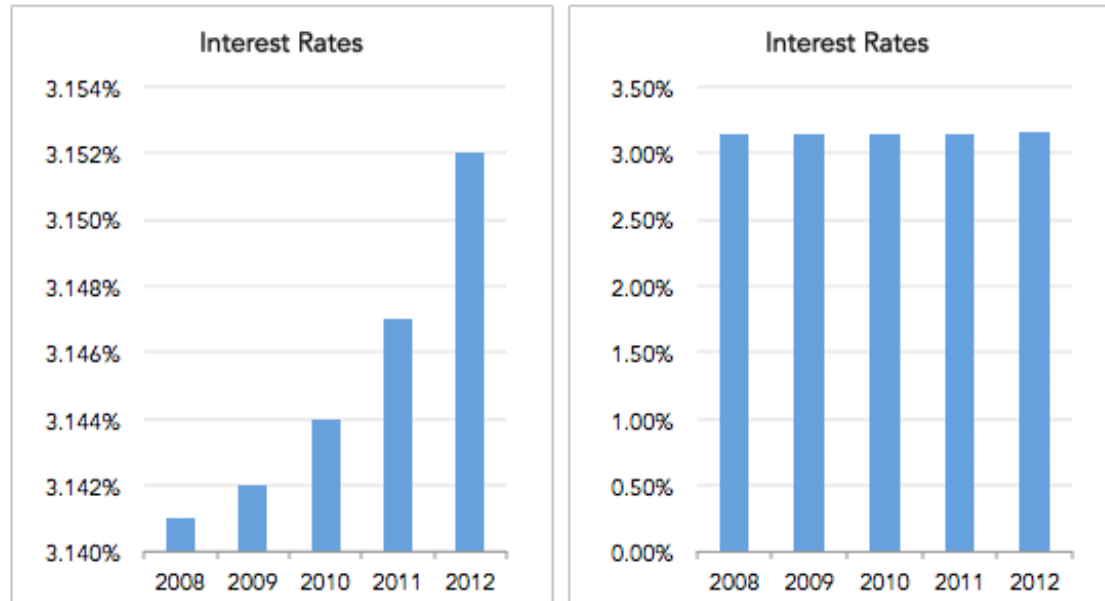
Lie factor



Scale manipulation

Changing with the scales of your chart to minimize, magnify, or invert the change in the data

Same Data, Different Y-Axis

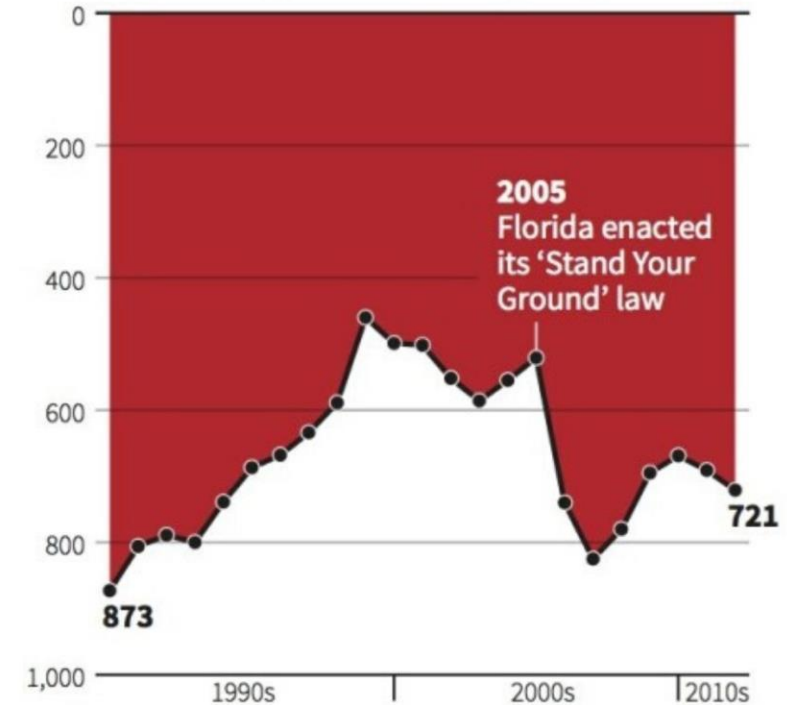


Convention manipulation

Breaking away from norms

Gun deaths in Florida

Number of murders committed using firearms



Source: Florida Department of Law Enforcement

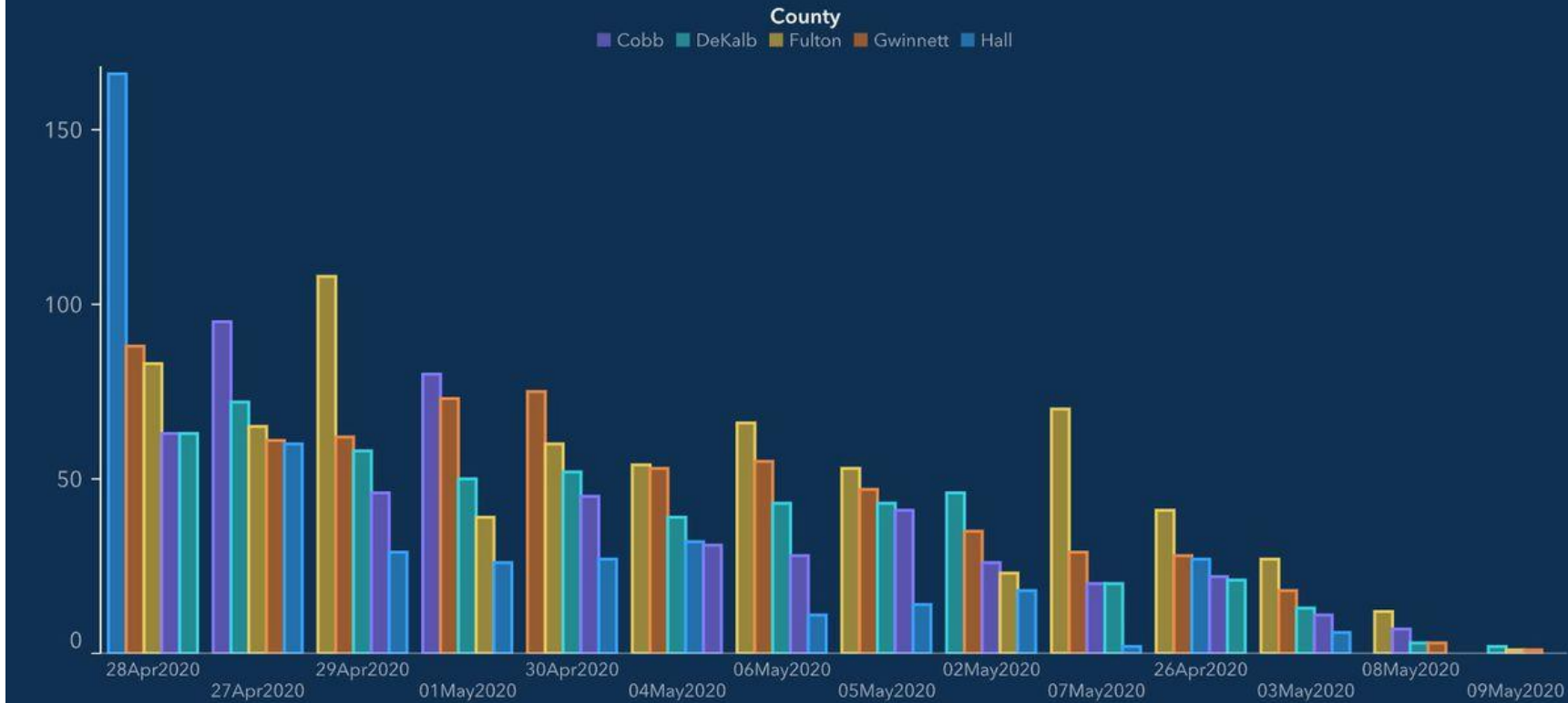
C. Chan 16/02/2014

REUTERS

Convention manipulation

Top 5 Counties with the Greatest Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases

The chart below represents the most impacted counties over the past 15 days and the number of cases over time. The table below also represents the number of deaths and hospitalizations in each of those impacted counties.



Visualization Tools

Tools, software, and frameworks

Adobe Illustrator
Adobe Creative Cloud

LaTeXiT
chachatelier.fr/latexit

Matplotlib
matplotlib.org

Seaborn
seaborn.pydata.org

Bokeh
bokeh.pydata.org

D3.js
d3js.org

GeoPandas
geopandas.org

Google Charts
developers.google.com/chart

Circos
circos.ca

gnuplot
gnuplot.info

TikZ
texample.net/tikz

Plotly
plot.ly/python

missingno
github.com/ResidentMario/missingno

billboard.js
naver.github.io/billboard.js

Squaire.js
wsj.github.io/squaire

Tableau
tableau.com/

Vega
vega.github.io/vega/

Vega-lite
vega.github.io/vega-lite/

Altair
altair-viz.github.io/

Adobe illustrator and alternatives

Where to get on campus:

For purchase: <https://itconnect.uw.edu/wares/uware/adobe-creative-cloud/>

Use for Free: UW Library

<https://www.lib.washington.edu/media/software>

Free alternatives:

Inkscape, <https://inkscape.org>

GIMP, <https://www.gimp.org>

Boxy-SVG, <https://boxy-svg.com>

Leverage UX prototyping tools

- Adobe suite is a powerful prototyping tool, but it has a high learning curve and can be difficult to collaborate on with others
- There are online collaborative UX prototyping tools that can be used to prototype wireframes and flows
 - [Figma](#): **free** for students and educators; can be exported as PDF, SVG, PNG

Convert JavaScript vis to figure

Three steps:

- 1) Use a JS library from two slide ago and generate a visualization
- 2) Generate a PDF file from HTML:
 - stackoverflow.com/questions/18191893/generate-pdf-from-html-in-div-using-javascript
- 3) Open the PDF in Illustrator and make further edits:
 - Change colors
 - Add labels and annotations
 - Add new visual elements, e.g., insets, logos
 - Combine with other graphics to get a multi-panel figure

Tools for network & relational data

- Gephi, gephi.org
- Graphviz, graphviz.org
- NetworkX, networkx.github.io
- JSNetworkX, jsnetworkx.org
- igraph, igraph.org/python
- sigma.js, sigmajs.org
- Cytoscape, cytoscape.org
- Hive plots, hiveplot.com

Where to get ideas for figures?

Papers published in last issues of Nature, Science, PNAS, Nature Methods, Nature Biotech, etc.

No need to read the papers, just look at figures!

Martin Krzywinski, mkweb.bcgsc.ca

Inventor of several popular visualization tools

Designed many Nature, Science, etc. covers

www.d3-graph-gallery.com

Gallery with hundreds of chart, graphs, geo, part-of-whole

Reproducible & editable source code!

developers.google.com/chart/interactive/docs/gallery

Over 30 chart types, including many non-standard ones

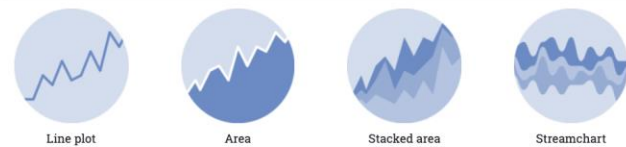
Tutorials and source code for every chart type!

Where to get ideas for figures?

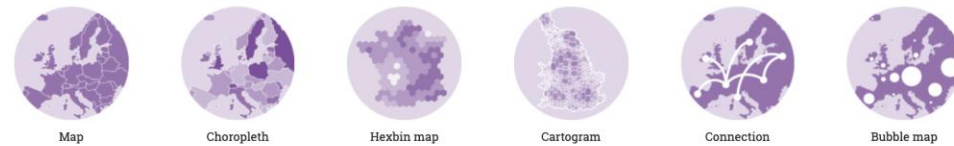
www.d3-graph-gallery.com

Many non-standard, but highly effective chart types. Source code!

Evolution



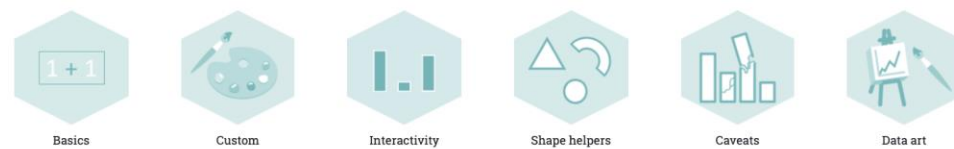
Map



Flow



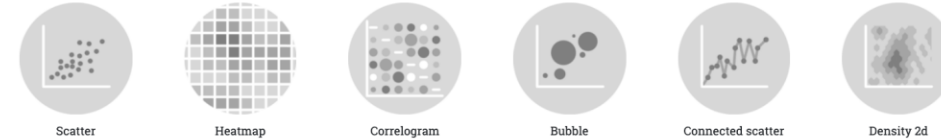
General knowledge



Distribution



Correlation



Ranking



Part of a whole



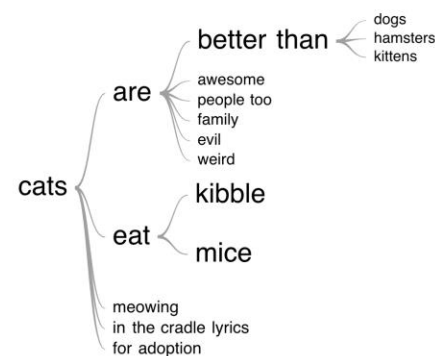
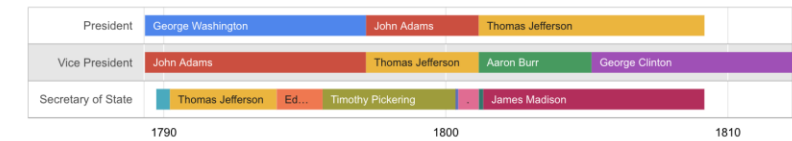
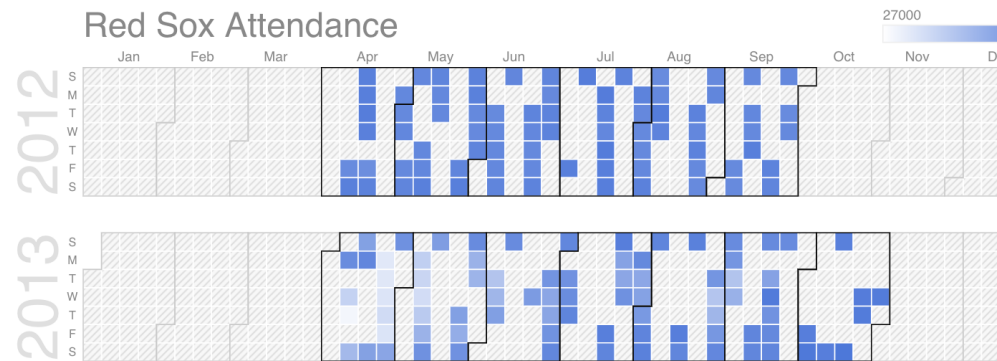
Where to get ideas for figures?

<https://developers.google.com/chart> with **source code!**

Chart Types

Chart Gallery

Annotation Charts
Area Charts
Bar Charts
Bubble Charts
Calendar Charts
Candlestick Charts
Column Charts
Combo Charts
Diff Charts
Donut Charts
Gantt Charts
Gauge Charts
GeoCharts
Histograms
Intervals
Line Charts
Maps
Org Charts
Pie Charts
Sankey Diagrams
Scatter Charts
Stepped Area Charts
Table Charts
Timelines
Tree Map Charts
Trendlines
Waterfall Charts
Word Trees



Region GeoCharts

The `regions` style fills entire regions (typically countries) with colors corresponding to the values that you assign.

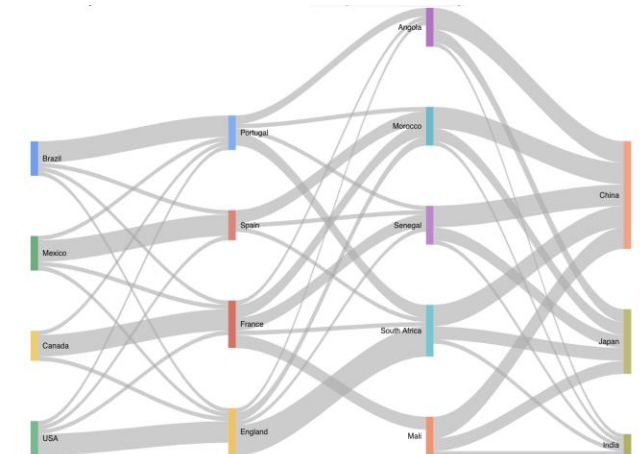
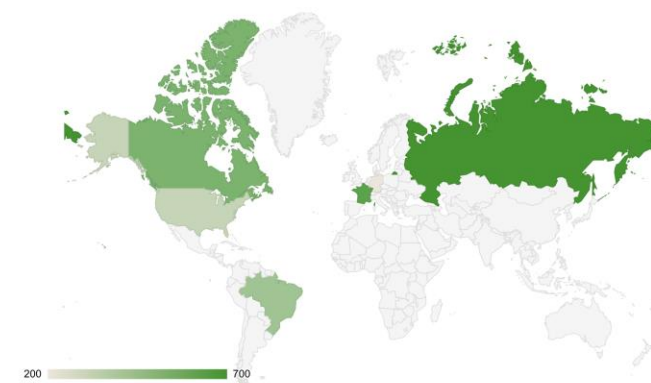


Chart guide

<https://www.storytellingwithdata.com/chart-guide>



At *storytelling with data*, we encounter a ton of different graphs. Through our work, we've both learned strategies for effective application and identified common pitfalls (including some things to avoid!). In this guide, we share the good and the bad of commonly used charts and graphs for data communications.

Simply click on a graph below to learn more.

WHAT IS A LINE GRAPH?

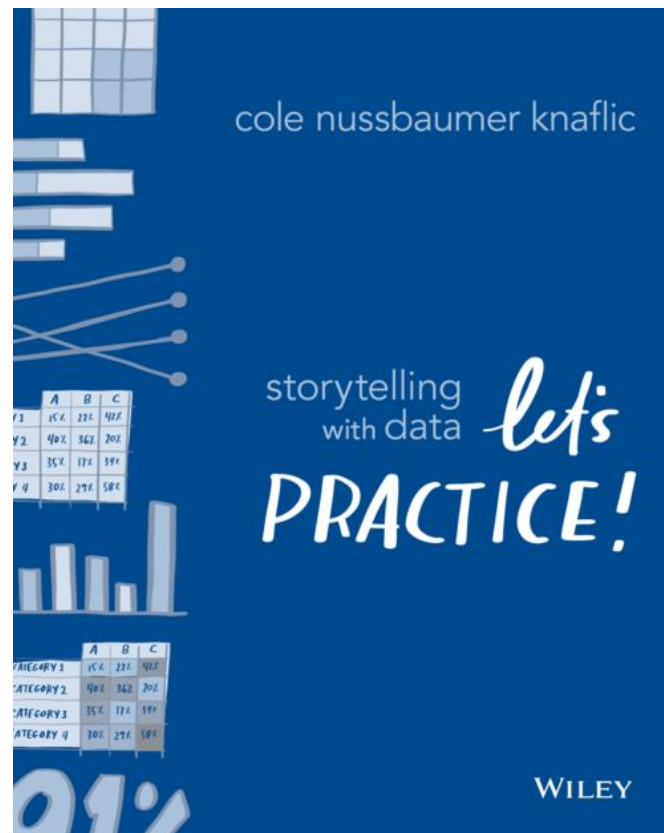
WHAT IS A BAR CHART?

WHAT IS AN AREA GRAPH?



Practice visualization redesign

<https://www.storytellingwithdata.com/letspractice/downloads>



CHAPTER 3: identify & eliminate clutter



3.1: which Gestalt principles are in play? | [data](#) | see book for solution

3.2: how can we tie words to the graph? | [data](#) | [solution](#)

solutions in other tools:

Datawrapper | Flourish | Google Data Studio | PowerBI | Tableau

3.3: harness the power of alignment & white space | [data](#) | [solution](#)

3.4: declutter! | [data](#) | [solution](#)



3.5: which Gestalt principles are in play? | [data](#)

3.6: find an effective visual | see book

3.7: create alignment and use white space | [data](#)

3.8: declutter! | [data](#)

3.9: declutter (again!) | [data](#)

3.10: declutter (one more time!) | [data](#)

CHAPTER 4: focus attention

Data visualization interactive notebooks

<https://github.com/uwdata/visualization-curriculum>

Table of Contents

1. Introduction to Vega-Lite / Altair

[Jupyter Book](#) | [Jupyter](#) | [Colab](#) | [Nextjournal](#) | [Observable](#) | [Deepnote](#)

2. Data Types, Graphical Marks, and Visual Encoding Channels

[Jupyter Book](#) | [Jupyter](#) | [Colab](#) | [Nextjournal](#) | [Observable](#) | [Deepnote](#)

3. Data Transformation

[Jupyter Book](#) | [Jupyter](#) | [Colab](#) | [Nextjournal](#) | [Observable](#) | [Deepnote](#)

4. Scales, Axes, and Legends

[Jupyter Book](#) | [Jupyter](#) | [Colab](#) | [Nextjournal](#) | [Observable](#) | [Deepnote](#)

5. Multi-View Composition

[Jupyter Book](#) | [Jupyter](#) | [Colab](#) | [Nextjournal](#) | [Observable](#) | [Deepnote](#)

6. Interaction

[Jupyter Book](#) | [Jupyter](#) | [Colab](#) | [Nextjournal](#) | [Observable](#) | [Deepnote](#)

7. Cartographic Visualization

[Jupyter Book](#) | [Jupyter](#) | [Colab](#) | [Nextjournal](#) | [Observable](#) | [Deepnote](#)

Seaborn tutorial

<https://bit.ly/cse481ds-seaborn-tutorial>

Other resources

UW CSE 512 course materials:

<https://courses.cs.washington.edu/courses/cse512/>

Collaborative visualization tools:

<https://observablehq.com/>

Interactive visualization publications:

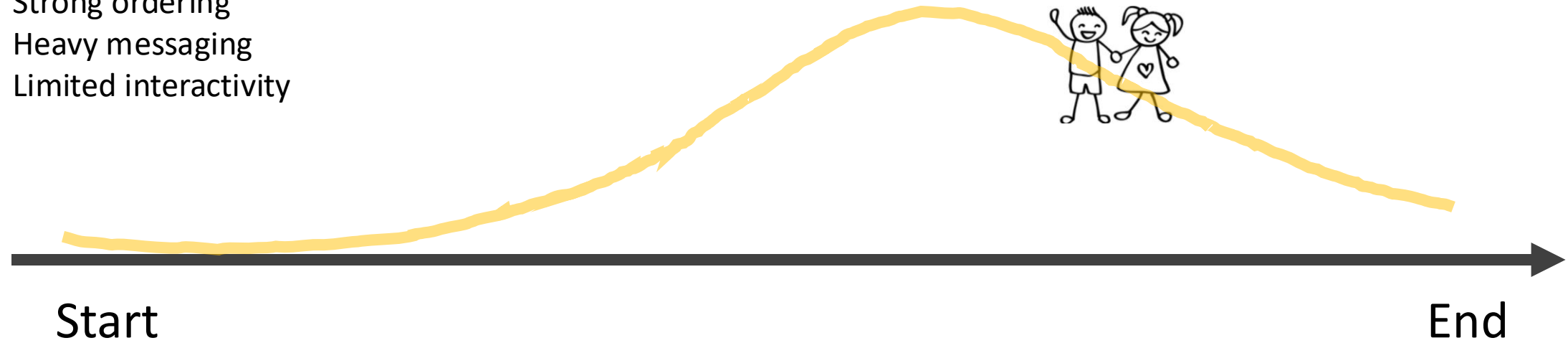
<https://distill.pub/journal/>

Extra

Narrative structure

Author-driven narratives

Strong ordering
Heavy messaging
Limited interactivity

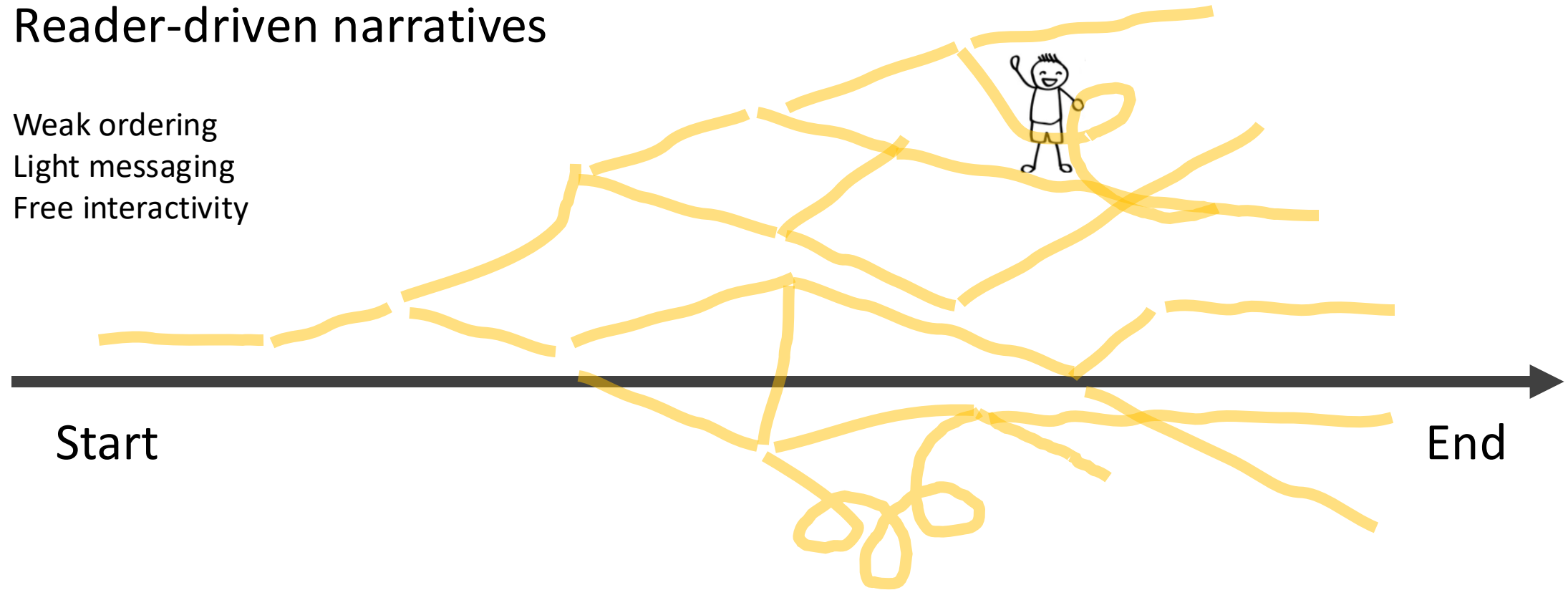


Segel & Heer, 2010

Narrative structure

Reader-driven narratives

Weak ordering
Light messaging
Free interactivity

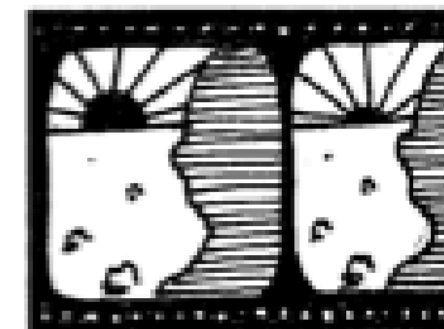
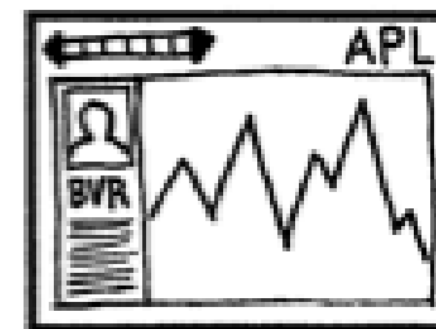
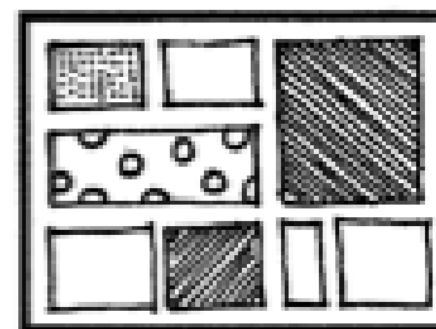
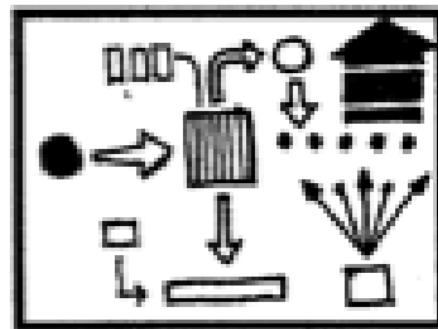
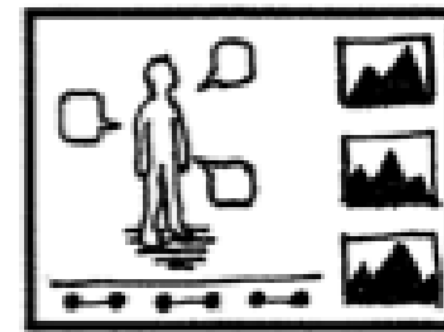
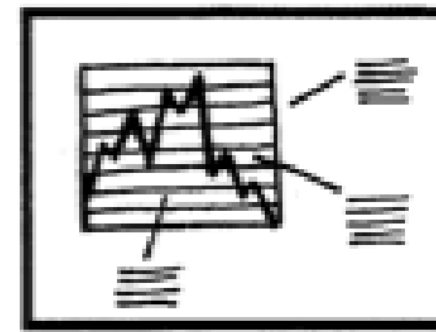
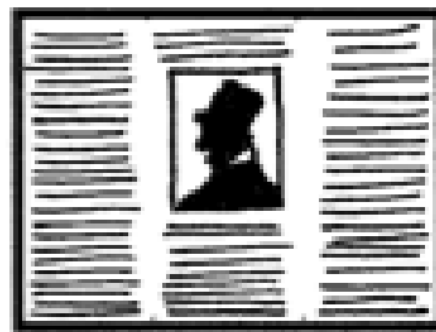
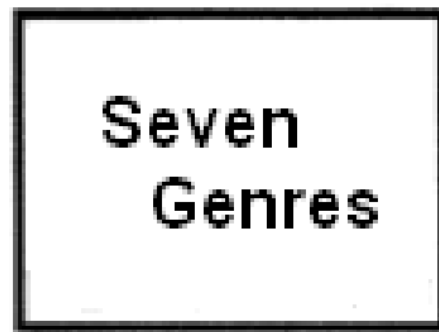


Segel & Heer, 2010

Narrative structure



Segel & Heer, 2010



Flow Chart

Comic Strip

Slide Show

Film/Video/Animation

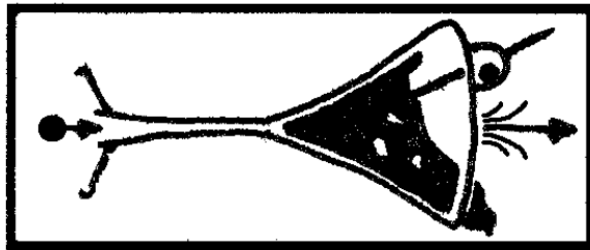
Fig. 8. Genres of Narrative Visualization.

A little bit of both

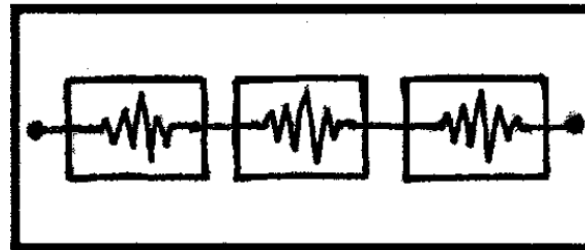


Author-driven

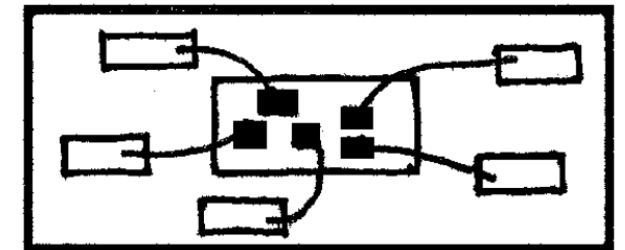
Reader-driven



Martini glass



Interactive slideshow



Drill-down story

Martini glass



Stopping the spread

Reaching herd immunity through vaccination

[https://graphics.reuters.com/HEALTH-CORONAVIRUS/HERD%20IMMUNITY%20\(EXPLAINER\)/ygdvzmqqgpw/index.html](https://graphics.reuters.com/HEALTH-CORONAVIRUS/HERD%20IMMUNITY%20(EXPLAINER)/ygdvzmqqgpw/index.html)

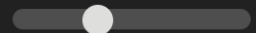
By **Simon Scarr** and **Manas Sharma**

Writing by **Jane Wardell**

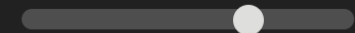
Martini glass

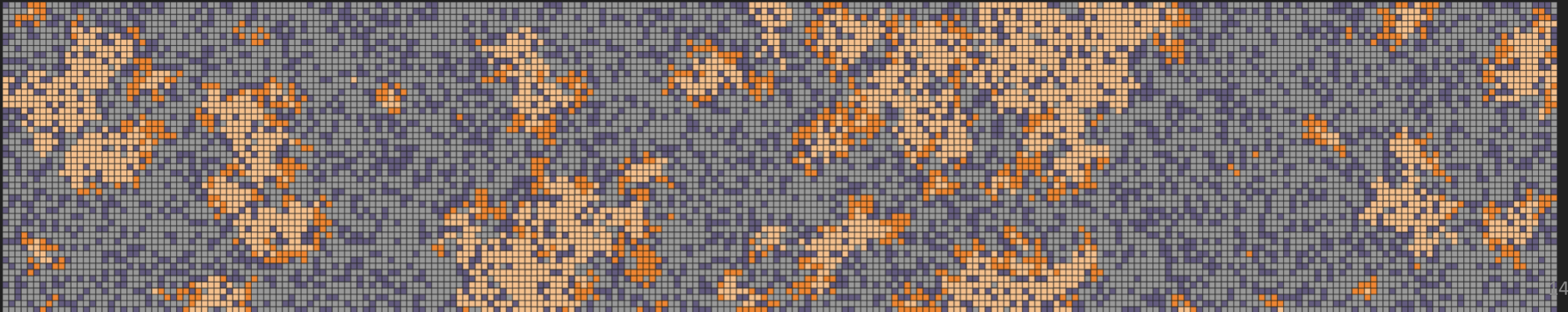
The model

Use the sliders to input your own parameters to the Reuters model and see a simulation of the spread.

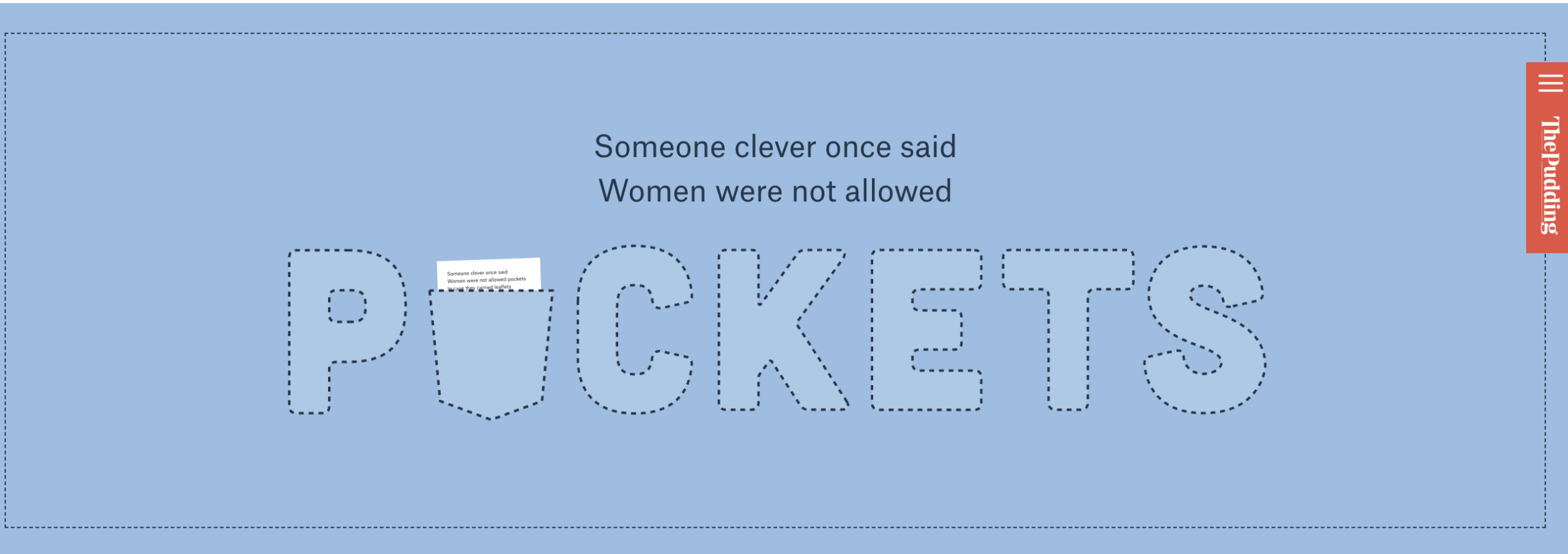
 Vaccination: **30%**

 R0: **2.5**

 Vaccine effectiveness: **70%**



Scroller



<https://pudding.cool/2018/08/pockets/>

By Jan Diehm & Amber Thomas

August 2018

Slideshow

Gun Deaths In America

By Ben Casselman, Matthew Conlen and
Reuben Fischer-Baum

CLICK to advance

<https://fivethirtyeight.com/features/gun-deaths/>

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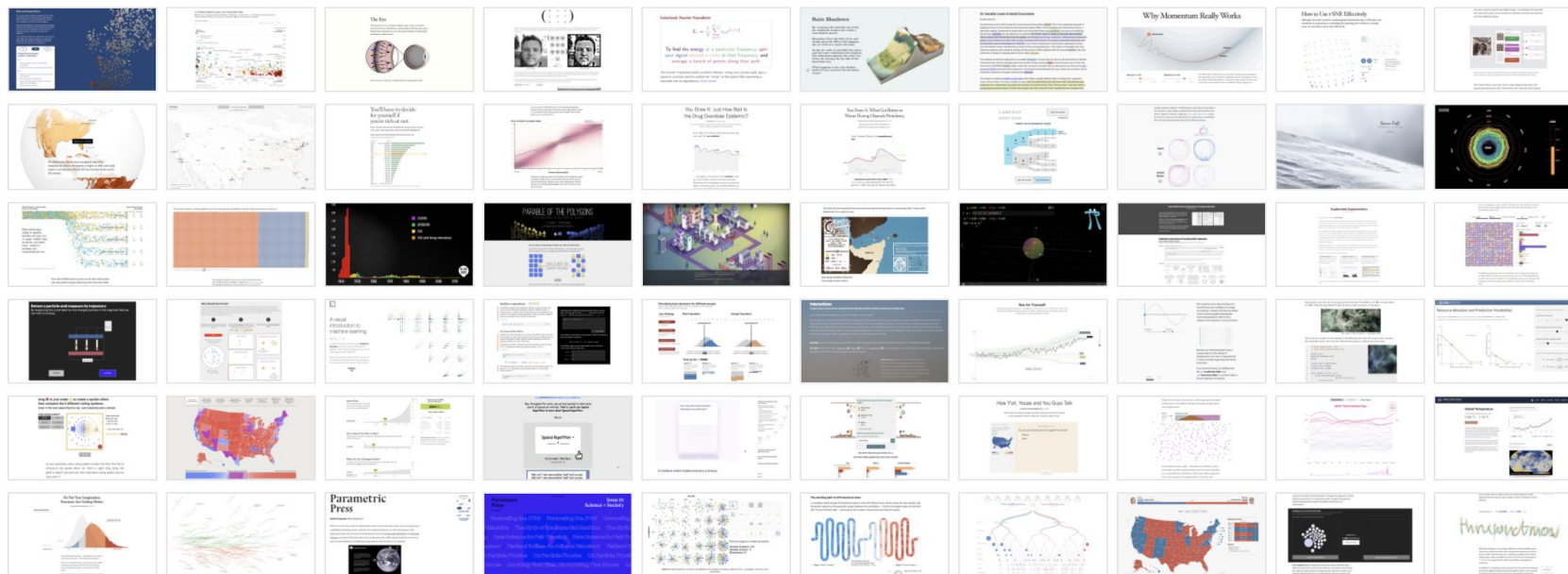
12

Explore the data for yourself »

Interactive articles

Communicating with Interactive Articles

Examining the design of interactive articles by synthesizing theory from disciplines such as education, journalism, and visualization.



<https://distill.pub/2020/communicating-with-interactive-articles/>

Thank you for your feedback!

<https://bit.ly/cse481ds-feedback>