INFORMATION VISUALIZATION Introduction

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Petra ISENBERG & Anastasia BEZERIANOS

OFFICE – Digiteo Moulon Building (660)

OFFICE HOURS – By appointment



YOU! QUICK INTROS

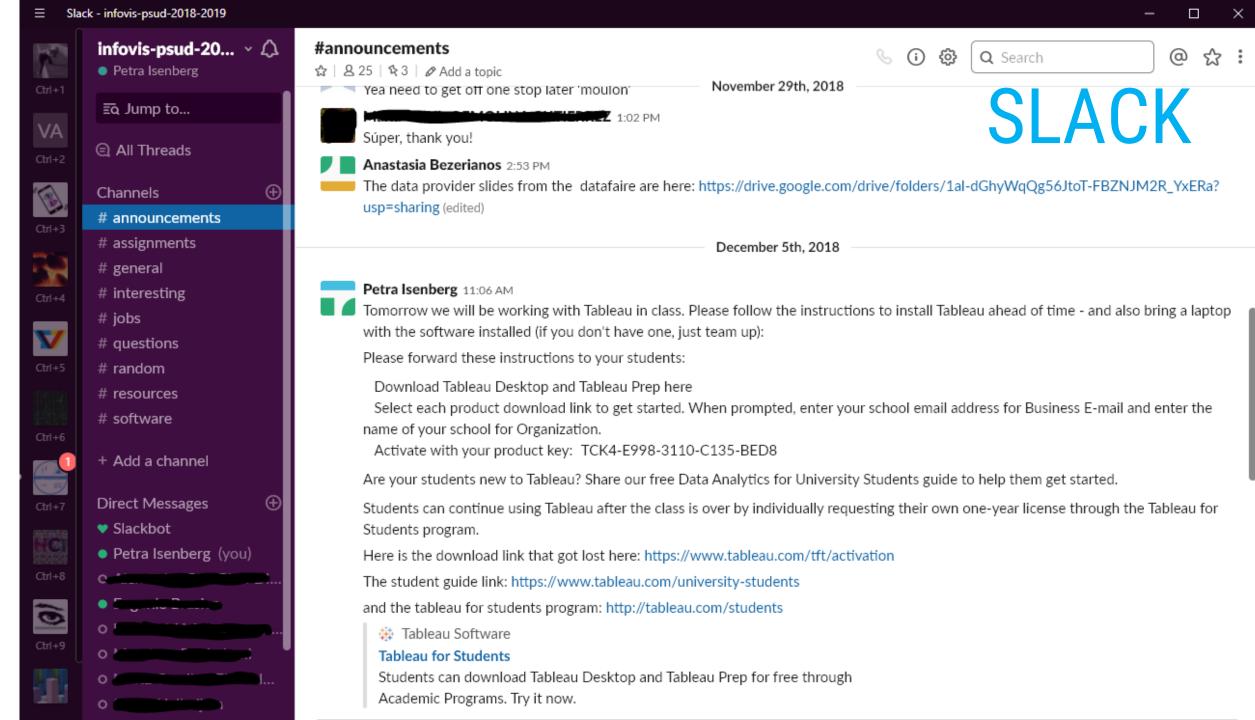
Any particular interests?

COURSE INFO

Visualization	Project Presentation
November - January	TBD

Class website

See Slack channel – everyone will get an invite





Send an email now:

Subject: InfoVis Class petra.lsenberg@inria.fr

Sign with your full name as we can find it on university info

GRADING SCHEME

- Assignments: 66%
 - check the website for due dates of assignments and how to submit them
 - Slack participation
- Exam: 33%

Web site will have information on each assignment don't forget to contact Petra for **Slack** invites!



READINGS

No specific readings necessary

Will announce readings on a per-lecture basis for those interested in learning more

ELECTRONICS POLICY

Laptops and devices okay (in fact you'll need them) ...but use them for work!

BEHAVIOR & SOCIETY

Students are Better Off without a Laptop in the Classroom

What do you think they'll actually use it for?

By Cindi May on July 11, 2017

Credit: Getty Images

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> As recent high school graduates prepare for their migration to college in the fall, one item is sure to top most students' shopping wish lists: a laptop computer. Laptops are ubiquitous on university campuses, and are viewed by most students as absolute must-have items, right alongside laundry detergent, towels, and coffee pots.

Without question, personal laptops can enhance the college experience by facilitating engagement with online course material, providing access to sources for research, maximizing internship searches, and even improving communication with friends and parents. Many students also opt to bring their laptops to class so that they can take notes, view online lecture slides, and search the web for course-related material. This practice, it

Puerto Rico Looks to Alphabet's X Project Loon Balloons to Restore Cell Service



Astronomers Are Finally Mapping the "Dark Side" of the Milky Way







LATEST NEWS

The Ethical Minefields of Technology





real data providers bring their data they want/need to explore



you will work on a real problem with real data see the reality of data visualization challenges make an impact

you will provide your choices in slack

DATAFAIR

(before next class)
early next week you'll be given a link
 to brief data descriptions (data-briefs)
 consider a few you find interesting)

next class (28/11) we meet at building **660** (room TBD) elevator speech by data providers "speed data-dating" form groups and talk more with providers



AFTER TODAY YOU WILL...

have gained an overview of the research area

learned basic principles of data representation and interaction

Why INFORMATION VISUALIZATION

"The ability to take data -- to be able to understand it, to process it, to extract value from it, to visualize it, to communicate it - that's going to be a hugely important skill in the next decades."

Hal Varian, chief economist at Google

"Data visualization is going to change the way our analysts work with data. They're going to be expected to respond to issues more rapidly. And they'll need to be able to dig for more insights – look at data differently, more imaginatively. Data visualization will promote that creative data exploration."

Simon Samuel Head of Customer Value Modeling for a large bank in the UK

Country Profile

Factors determining job location decisions

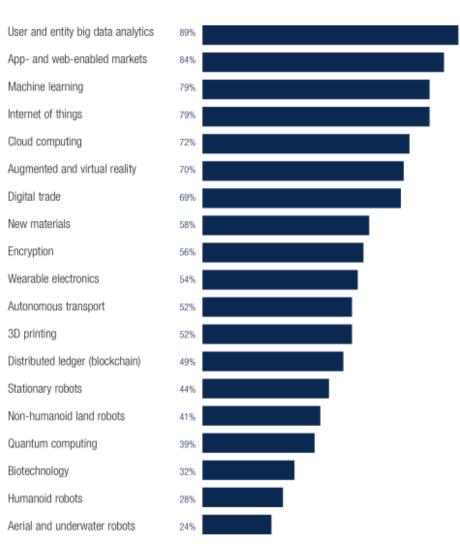
Industry	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary
Automotive, Aerospace, Supply Chain & Transport	Talent availability	Quality of the supply chain	Production cost
Aviation, Travel & Tourism	Talent availability	Organization HQ	Ease of importing talent
Chemistry, Advanced Materials & Biotechnology	Talent availability	Production cost	Labour cost
Consumer	Labour cost	Geographic concentration	Talent availability
Energy Utilities & Technologies	Labour cost	Production cost	Talent availability
Financial Services & Investors	Talent availability	Labour cost	Organization HQ
Global Health & Healthcare	Talent availability	Labour cost	Production cost
Information & Communication Technologies	Talent availability	Labour cost	Organization HQ
OII & Gas	Geographic concentration	Talent availability	Organization HQ
Professional Services	Talent availability	Strong local ed. provision	Labour cost

Range of options: Flexibility of labour laws, Geographic spread, Quality of the supply chain, Ease of importing talent, Labour cost, Location of raw materials, Organization H0, Production cost, Strong local education provision, Talent availability.

Emerging job roles

Managing Directors and Chief Executives Software and Applications Developers and Analysts Sales and Marketing Professionals General and Operations Managers Data Analysts and Scientists Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific Products Assembly and Factory Workers Human Resources Specialists Financial and Investment Advisers Financial Analysts

Technology adoption (share of companies surveyed)

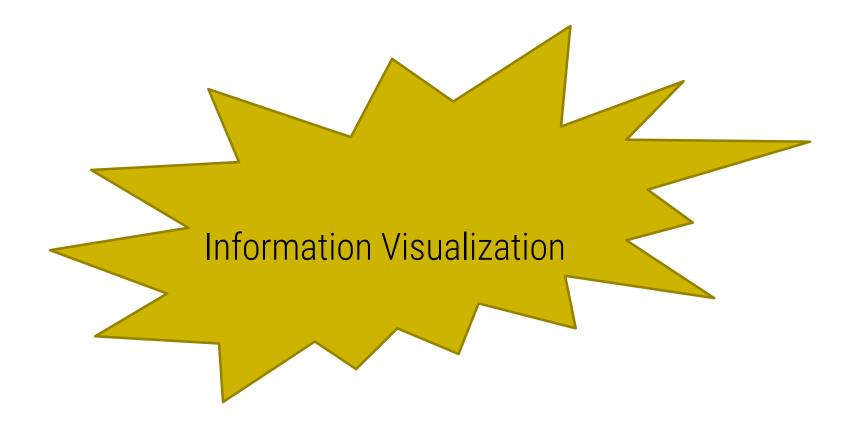




how can humans effectively access data?

- understand its structure?
- make comparisons?
- make decisions?
- gain new knowledge?
- convince others?

MANY POSSIBLE WAYS TO ADDRESS...



EXAMPLE

I		II				IV	
Х	у	х	у	Х	У	Х	у
10.0	8.04	10.0	9.14	10.0	7.46	8.0	6.58
8.0	6.95	8.0	8.14	8.0	6.77	8.0	5.76
13.0	7.58	13.0	8.74	13.0	12.74	8.0	7.71
9.0	8.81	9.0	8.77	9.0	7.11	8.0	8.84
11.0	8.33	11.0	9.26	11.0	7.81	8.0	8.47
14.0	9.96	14.0	8.10	14.0	8.84	8.0	7.04
6.0	7.24	6.0	6.13	6.0	6.08	8.0	5.25
4.0	4.26	4.0	3.10	4.0	5.39	19.0	12.50
12.0	10.84	12.0	9.13	12.0	8.15	8.0	5.56
7.0	4.82	7.0	7.26	7.0	6.42	8.0	7.91
5.0	5.68	5.0	4.74	5.0	5.73	8.0	6.89

Raw Data from Anscombe's Quartet

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

For all four columns, the statistics are identical

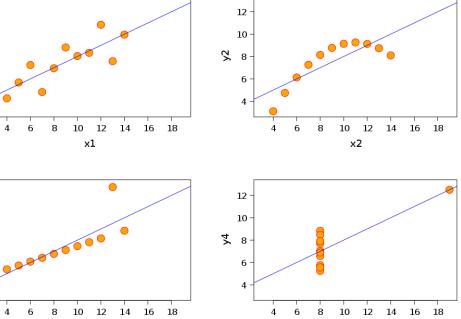
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10.0	8.04	10.0	9.14	10.0	7.46	8.0	6.58
8.0	6.95	8.0	8.14	8.0	6.77	8.0	5.76
13.0	7.58	13.0	8.74	13.0	12.74	8.0	7.71
9.0	8.81	9.0	8.77	9.0	7.11	8.0	8.84
11.0	8.33	11.0	9.26	11.0	7.81	8.0	8.47
14.0	9.96	14.0	8.10	14.0	8.84	8.0	7.04
6.0	7.24	6.0	6.13	6.0	6.08	8.0	5.25
4.0	4.26	4.0	3.10	4.0	5.39	19.0	12.50
12.0	10.84	12.0	9.13	12.0	8.15	8.0	5.56
7.0	4.82	7.0	7.26	7.0	6.42	8.0	7.91
5.0	5.68	5.0	4.74	5.0	5.73	8.0	6.89

Mean of <i>x</i>	9.0
Variance of <i>x</i>	11.0
Mean of y	7.5
Variance of y	4.12
Correlation between x and y	0.816
Linear regression line	<i>y</i> = 3 + 0.5 <i>x</i>

VISUAL REPRESENTATION OF THE DATA

Visual representation reveals a different story

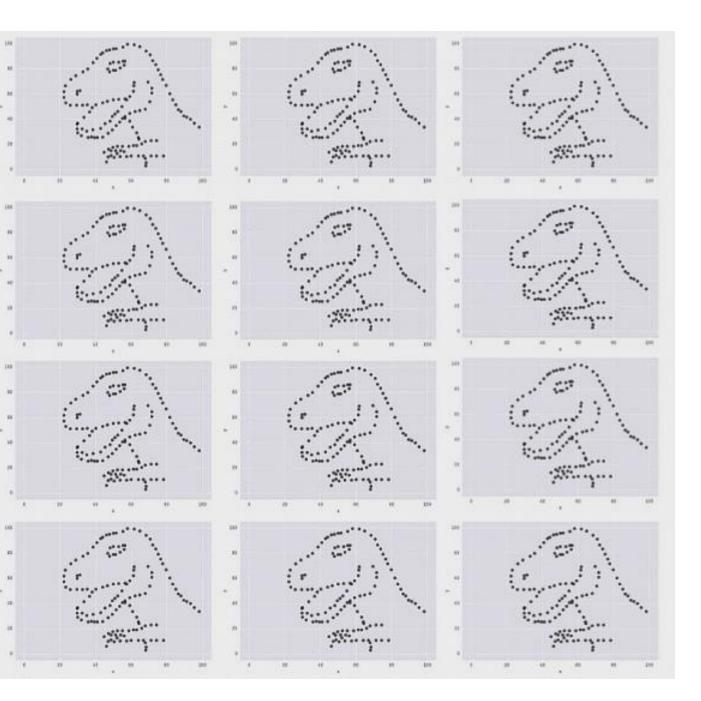
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	4 -	5.76	8.0	6.77	8.0	8.14	8.0	6.95	8.0
	4	7.71	8.0	12.74	13.0	8.74	13.0	7.58	13.0
4 6 8 10 12 14 16 x1		8.84	8.0	7.11	9.0	8.77	9.0	8.81	9.0
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•	12 -	5.25	8.0	6.08	6.0	6.13	6.0	7.24	6.0
	10 -	12.50	19.0	5.39	4.0	3.10	4.0	4.26	4.0
	۳ ک	5.56	8.0	8.15	12.0	9.13	12.0	10.84	12.0
	6 -	7.91	8.0	6.42	7.0	7.26	7.0	4.82	7.0
	4 -	6.89	8.0	5.73	5.0	4.74	5.0	5.68	5.0

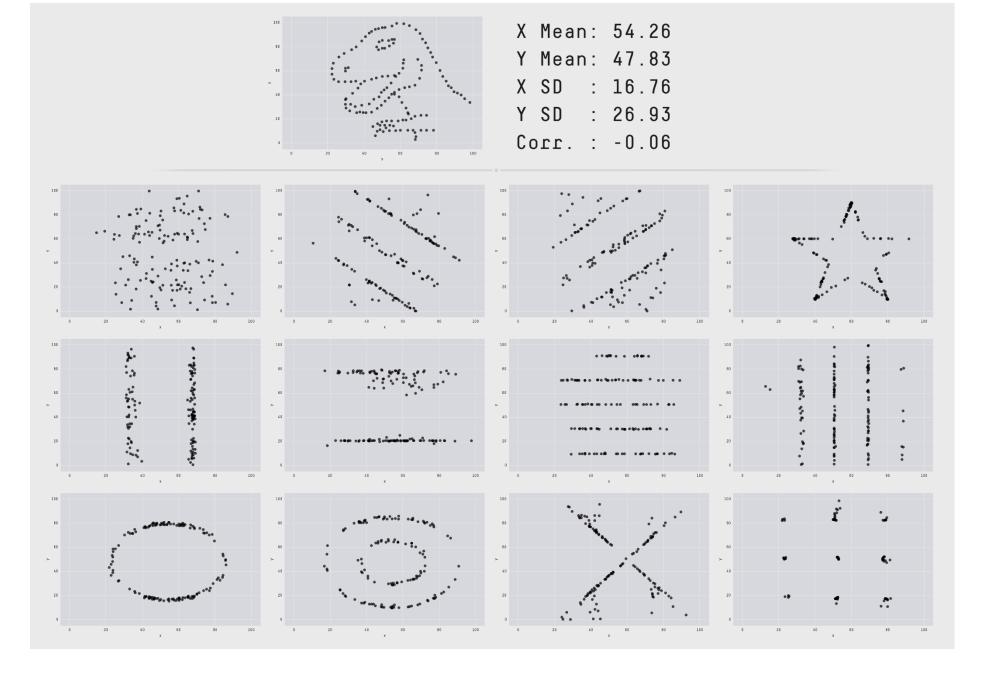


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[Source: Anscombe's quartet, Wikipedia]

x4

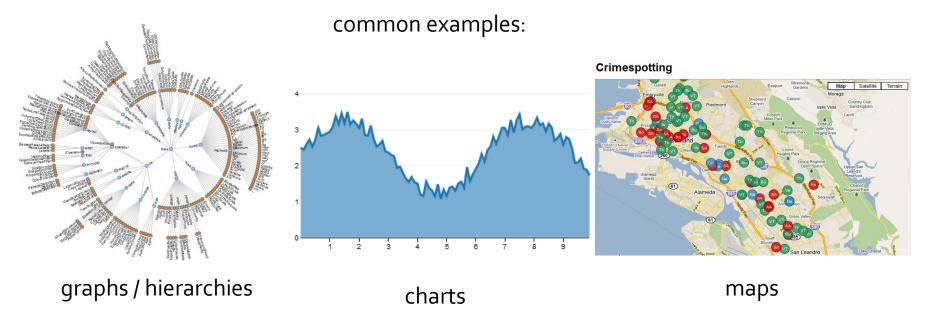




https://www.autodeskresearch.com/publications/samestats

Why visual data representations?

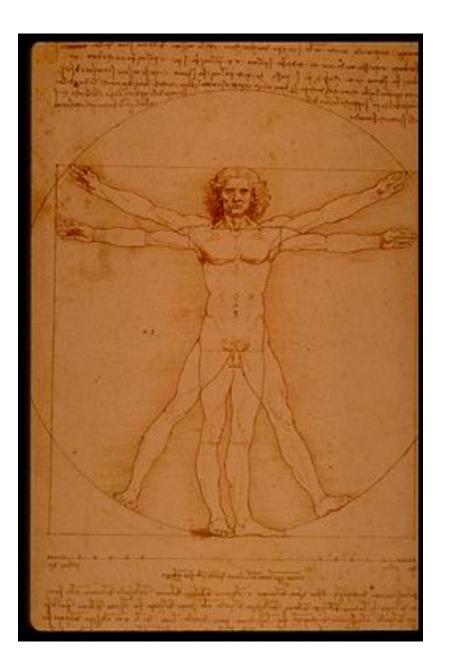
- Vision is our most dominant sense
- We are very good at recognizing visual patterns
- We need to see and understand in order to explain, reason, and make decisions



all examples from: http://vis.stanford.edu/protovis/

Other benefits of visualization

- expand human working memory
 - offload cognitive resources to the visual system,
- reduce search
 - by representing a large amount of data in a small space,
- enhance the recognition of patterns
 - by making them visually explicit
- aid monitoring of a large number of potential events
- provides a manipulable medium & allows exploration of a space of parameter values.



L'occhio, che si dice finestra dell'anima, è la principale via donde il comune senso può piú copiosamente e magnificamente considerare le infinite opere di natura.

> Leonardo da Vinci (1452 - 1519)

The eye... the window of the soul, is the principal means by which the central sense can most completely and abundantly appreciate the infinite works of nature.

Information visualization

- Create visual representation
- Concentrates on abstract data
- Includes interaction

Official Definition:

The use of computer-supported, interactive, visual representations of abstract data to amplify cognition. [Card et al., 1999]

READINGS IN INFORMATION VISUALIZATION USING VISION TO THINK HUMMMERENNAN STOART & CARD JOG D. MACKINAN EN SINKEIDERMAN



Functions of Visualizations

- Recording information
 - Tables, blueprints, satellite images
- Processing information
 - needs feedback and interaction
- Presenting information
 - share, collaborate, revise
 - for oneself, for one's peers, and to teach
- Seeing the unseen

Visualization of abstract data has been practiced for hundreds of years...

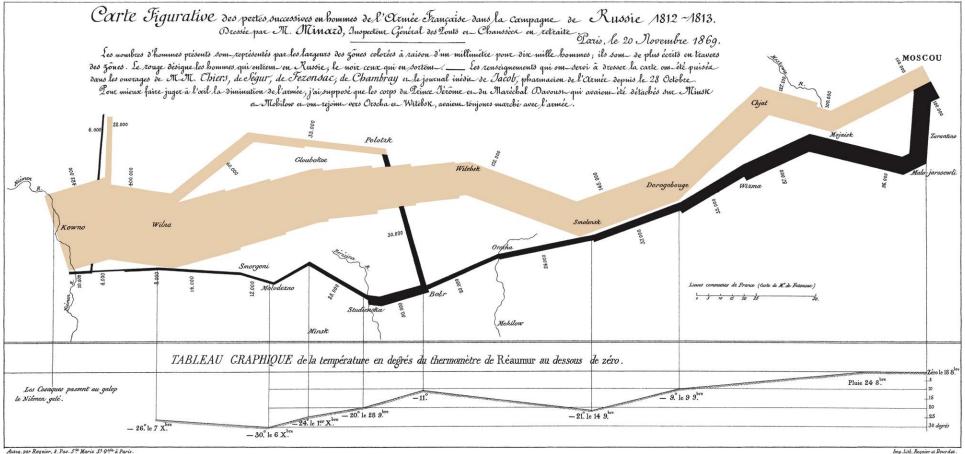
HISTORICAL EXAMPLES

Napoleon's March on Moscow

Charles Minard, 1869

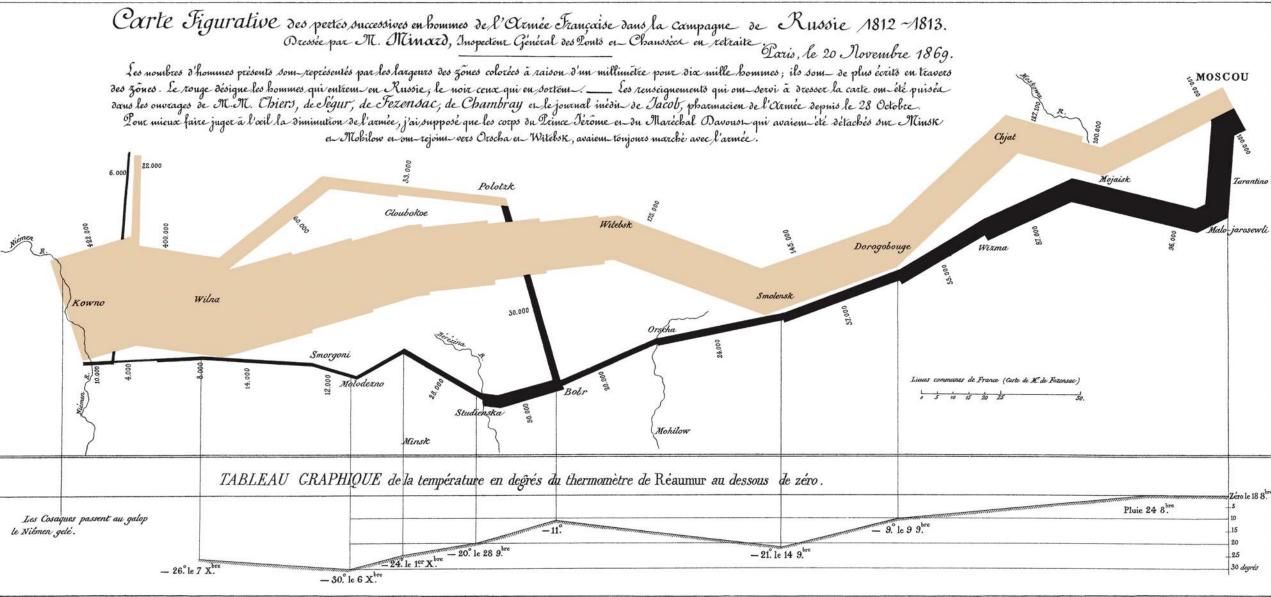
Named the best statistical graphic ever drawn (by Edward Tufte)

- Includes: spatial layout linked with stats on: army size, temperature, time ____
- Tells a story in one overview _



Autog. par Regnier, 8. Pas. Ste Marie St Gain à Paris.

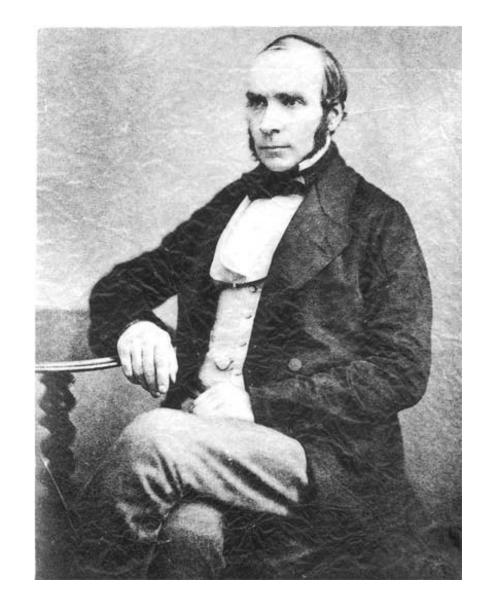
More info: The Visual Display of Quantitative Information (Tufte)



Autog. par Regnier, 8. Pas. Ste Marie St Gain à Paris

The Broadway Street Pump

- In 1854 cholera broke out in London
 - 127 people near Broad Street died within 3 days
 - 616 people died within 30 days
- "Miasma in the atmosphere"
- Dr. John Snow was the first to link contaminated water to the outbreak of cholera
- How did he do it?
 - he talked to local residents
 - identified a water pump as a likely source
 - used maps to illustrate his theory
 - convinced authorities to disable the pump





John Snow, 1854

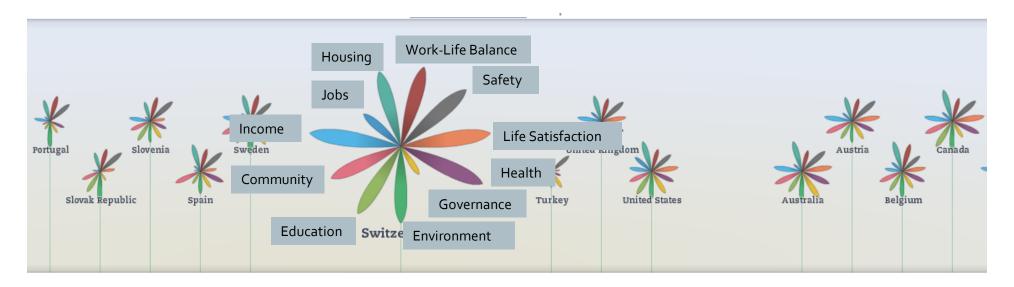
... AND MORE RECENTLY

TrashTrack

Winner of the NSF International Science & Engineering Visualization Challenge! http://senseable.mit.edu/trashtrack/

Open Data

- Movement making government data freely available
- Encourage participation by everyone



OECD Better Life Index: http://www.oecdbetterlifeindex.org/

Specific Visualization Environments



Molecular visualisation in the Reality Cube University of Groningen, NL



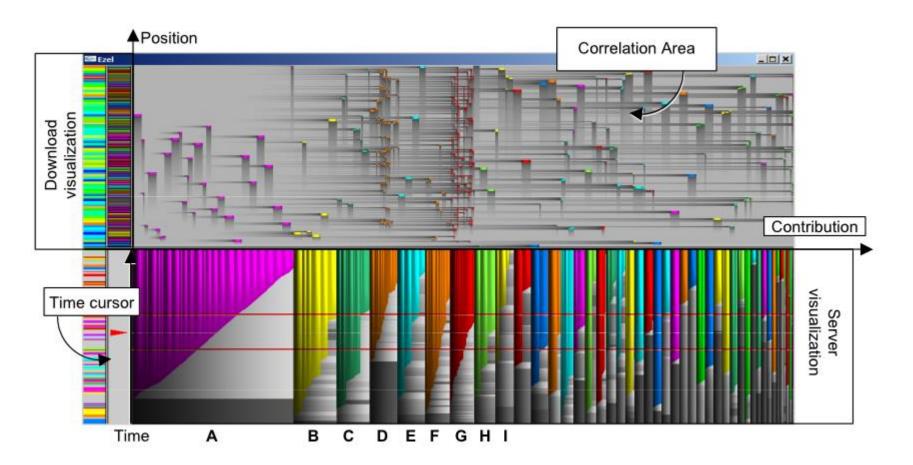
Tabletops for Visualization University of Calgary



WILD/WILDER Walls, UPSUD and INRIA

Software Visualization

EZEL: a Visual Tool for Performance Assessment of Peer-to-Peer File-Sharing Networks (Voinea et al., InfoVis, 2004)



Text Visualization

Parallel Tag Clouds to Explore Faceted Text Corpora (Collins et al., VAST 2009)

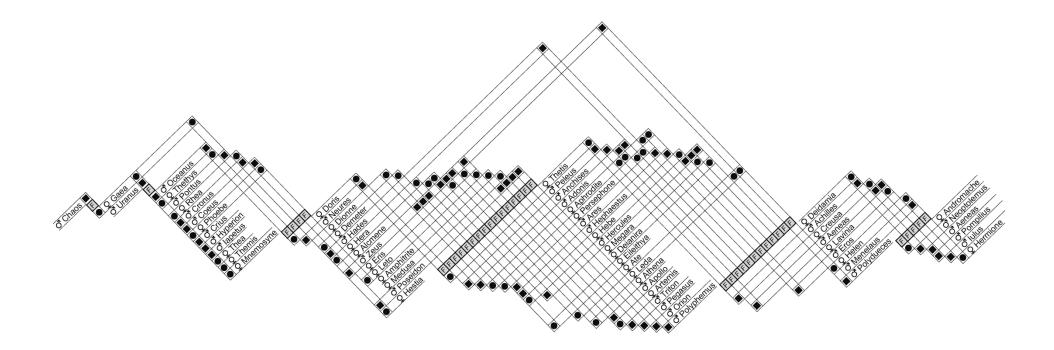
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See some suggested supra	respect security	plaintiff plan plenary	opinion oral	recovery refd retard	pneumoconiosis price pursuant	say she suit	search sentence sexual she	prisoner provided public pursuant	record remained res submitted suspended	section sentence sheriff students	patentee product reaso reissue	reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprinted reprin	<u>.</u>	
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Options	Supreme (3373) First (8311) Second (14623)	Fourth (234	132) Seventh (17557) Tenth	(15635) DC (6	ral (10610) 454) own (518)	Start year:	1990 🔔 End	year: 2007 🔦	Visualize				

Graphs

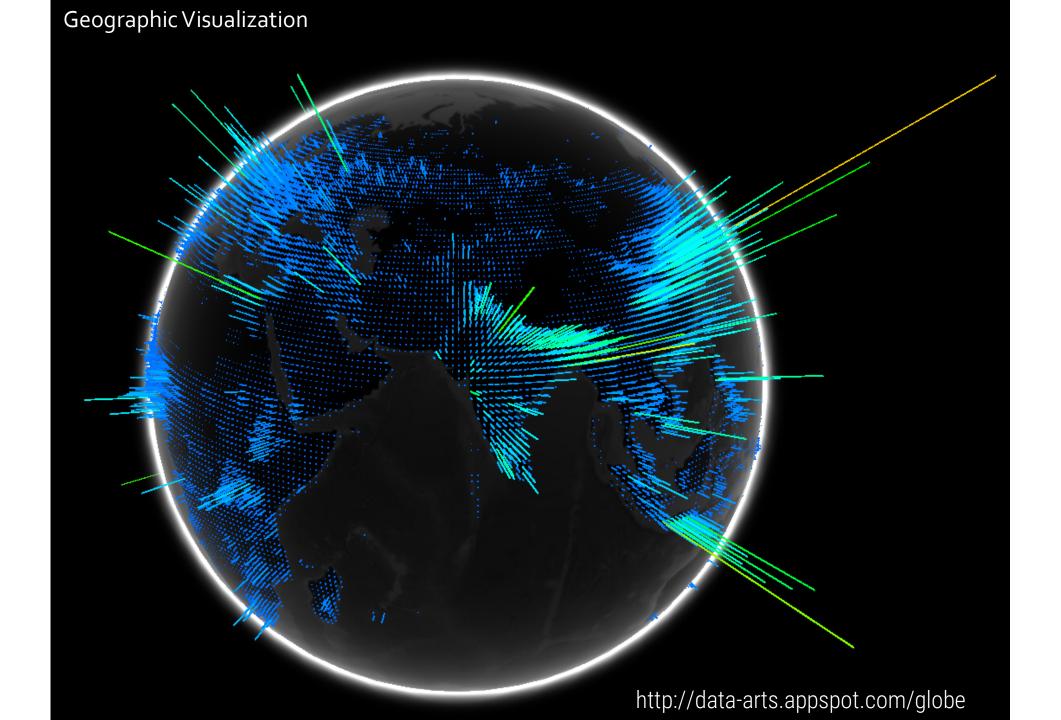


http://www.facebook.com/note.php?note_id=469716398919 Visualizing Friendships by Paul Butler on Tuesday, December 14, 2010

Family Trees



http://www.aviz.fr/geneaquilts/

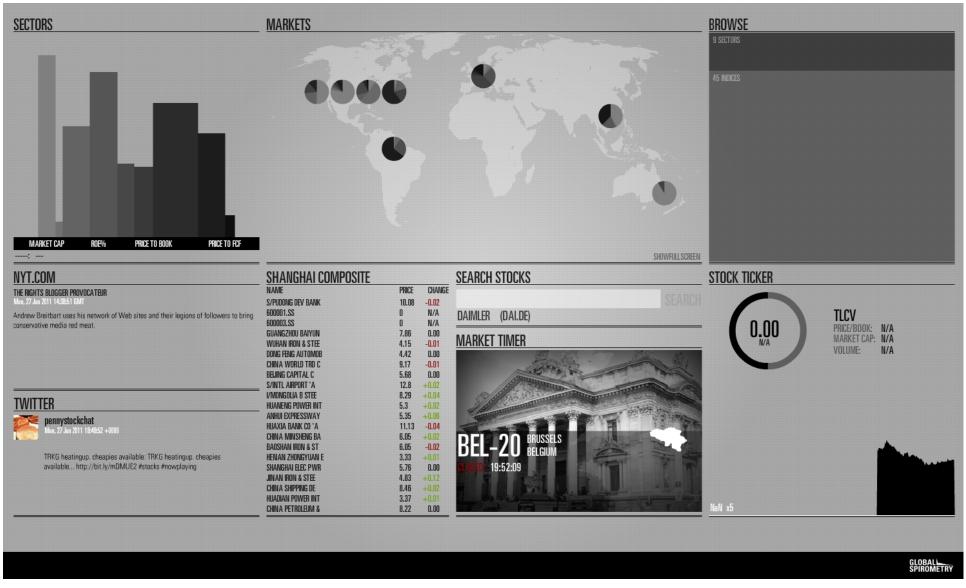


Weather



http://weatherspark.com/

Data Dashboards



http://globalspirometry.com

Resources for more examples

- Visualization conferences
- Blogs
 - <u>http://infosthetics.com/</u>
 - <u>http://fellinlovewithdata.com/</u>
 - <u>http://eagereyes.org/</u>
 - <u>http://flowingdata.com/</u>
 - <u>http://www.informationisbeautiful.net/</u>
- Books
 - Textbooks
 - Readings in Information Visualization: Using Vision to Think (a bit old now but good intro)
 - Information Visualization (Robert Spence a light intro, I recommend as a start)
 - Information Visualization Perception for Design (Colin Ware, focused on perception and cognition)
 - Interactive Data Visualization: Foundations, Techniques, and Applications (Ward et al.)
 - Visualization Analysis and Design (Tamara Munzner, most recent book)
 - Examples
 - Beautiful Data (McCandless)
 - Now You See it (Few)
 - Tufte Books: Visual Display of Quantitative Information (and others)
 - ... (many more, ask me for details)

It is difficult to create





What is a representation?

- A representation is
 - a formal system or mapping by which the information can be specified (D. Marr)
 - a sign system in that it stands for something other than its self.
- for example: the number thirty-four



Presentation

• different representations reveal different aspects of the information

decimal: counting & information about powers of 10,

binary: counting & information about powers of 2,

roman: impress your friends (outperformed by positional system)

• presentation

how the representation is placed or organized on the screen

<u>34, 34, <u>34</u></u>

Principles of Graphical Excellence

- Well-designed presentation of interesting data
 - a matter of substance, statistics, design
- Complex ideas communicated with clarity, precision, efficiency
- Gives the viewer the greatest number of ideas in the shortest time with the least ink in the smallest space
- Involves almost always multiple variables
- Tell the truth about the data

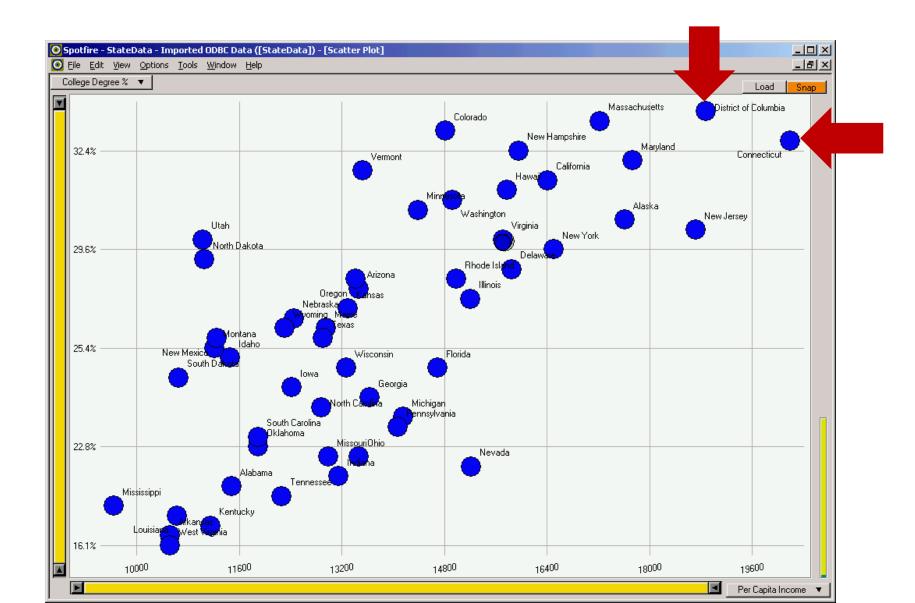
Or a bit more simply...

- Solving a problem simply means representing it so as to make the solution transparent ... (Simon, 1981)
- Good representations:
 - allow people to find relevant information
 - information may be present but hard to find
 - allow people to compute desired conclusions
 - computations may be difficult or "for free" depending on representations

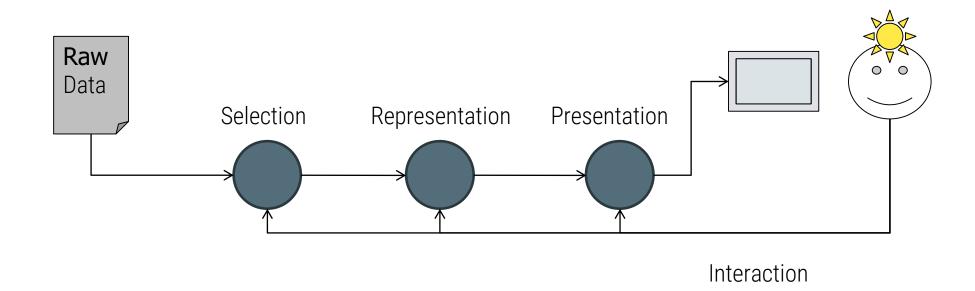
Good representation?

i, Table - StateData ()			ЫN	TMICINGUN	101.170	
		Load Sn	эр 🗌	Minnesota	30.4%	14389
State C	College Degree %	Per Capita Income	Ť	Mississippi	19.9%	9648
	0.6%	11486	-	Missouri	22.3%	12989
	0.3%	17610		Montana	25.4%	11213
	7.1%	13461	$+ \square$	Nebraska	26.0%	12452
			$+ \square$	Nevada	21.5%	15214
	7.0%	10520		New Hampshire	32.4%	15959
	1.3%	16409	⊢⊫	New Jersey	30.1%	18714
Colorado 3	3.9%	14821		New Mexico	25.5%	11246
Connecticut 3	3.8%	20189		New York	29.6%	16501
Delaware 2	7.9%	15854		North Carolina	24.2%	12885
	6.4%	18881		North Dakota	28.1%	11051
	4.9%	14698		Ohio	22.3%	13461
	4.3%	13631		Oklahoma	22.8%	11893
	1.2%		┼┝┣═	Oregon	27.5%	13418
		15770	+	Pennsylvania	23.2%	14068
	5.2%	11457	+	Rhode Island	27.5%	14981
	6.8%	15201	\downarrow	South Carolina	23.0%	11897
	0.9%	13149		South Dakota	24.6%	10661
lowa 2	4.5%	12422		Tennessee	20.1%	12255
Kansas 2	6.5%	13300		Texas	25.5%	12904
	7.7%	11153		Utah	<u>30.0%</u> 31.5%	<u>11029</u> 13527
	9.4%	10635		Vermont Virginia	30.0%	15713
	5.7%	12957		Washington	30.9%	14923
				West Virginia	16.1%	14923
	1.7%	17730		Wisconsin	24.9%	13276
	4.5%	17224		Wyoming	25.7%	12311
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Minnesota 3	0.4%	14389	† LL			

Good representation!



How do we arrive at a visualization?

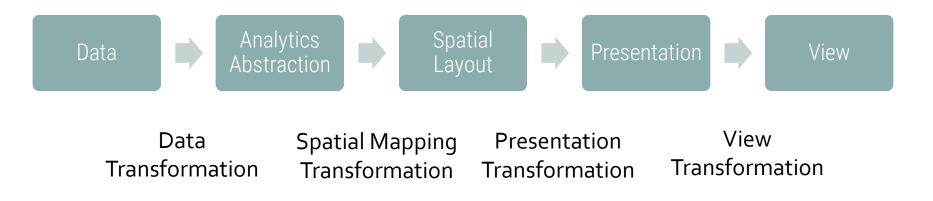


The Visualization Pipeline

From [Spence, 2000]

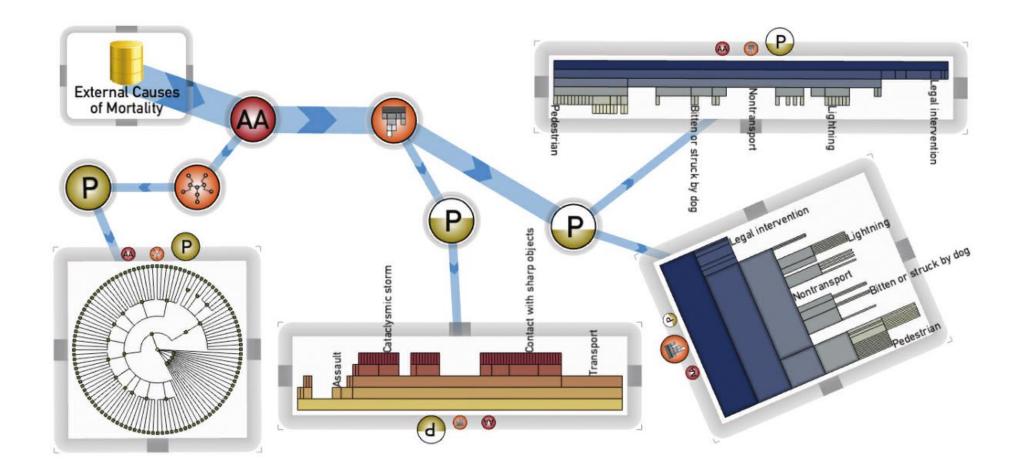
Visualization Reference Model

Also a visualization pipeline a bit expanded



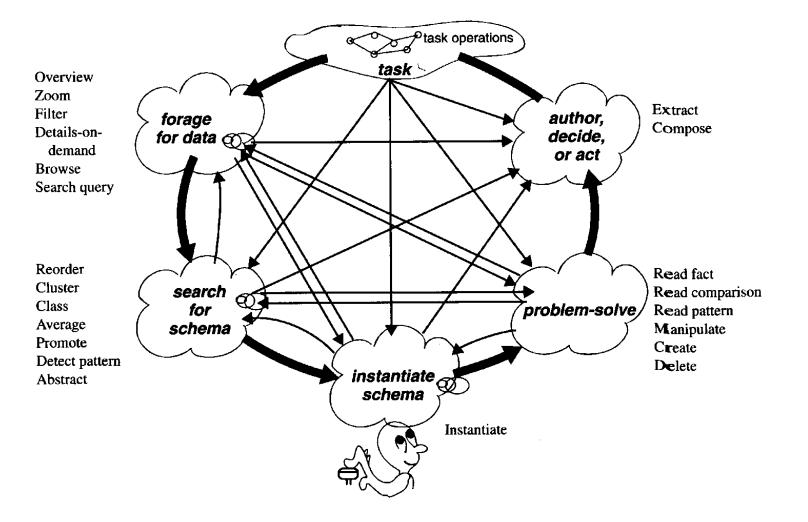
From [Card et al., Readings in Information Visualization]

Visualization pipeline in an image



[Tobiasz et al., 2009]

Knowledge Crystallization Cycle



Working with visualizations in NOT a linear process

[Card et al., 1999]

Pitfalls

- Selecting the wrong data
- Selecting the wrong data structure
- Filtering out important data
- Failed understanding of the types of things that need to be shown
- Choosing the wrong representation
- Choosing the wrong presentation format
- Inappropriate interactions provided to explore the data

Recap

- So far you
 - learned what information visualization is
 - learned about the advantages of visualization
 - saw a number of examples (historical and new)
- Next
 - you will get to know your data
 - you will learn about the basic components of visualization

Data

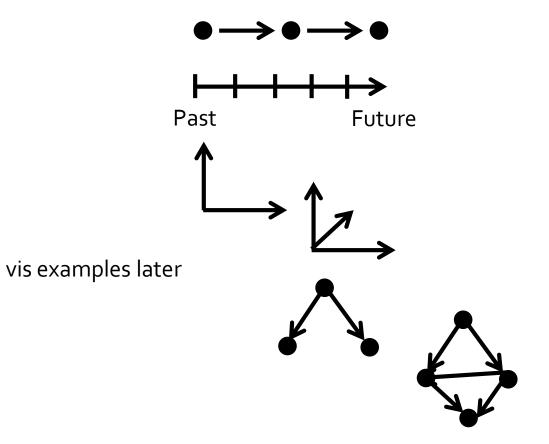
- Data is the foundation of any visualization
- The visualization designer needs to
 - understand the data properties
 - know what meta-data is available
 - know what people want from the data

Nominal, Ordinal and Quantitative

- Nominal / Categorical (labels)
 - Fruits: apples, oranges
- Ordered
 - Quality of meat: grade A, AA, AAA
 - Can be counted and ordered, but not measured
- Quantitative
 - Intervals or Ratios
 - Can do arithmetic on it

Data-Type Taxonomy

- 1D (linear)
- Temporal
- 2D (maps)
- 3D
- nD (relational)
- Trees (hierarchies)
- Networks (graphs)



Shneiderman: The Eyes Have It

Why is this important?

- Nominal, ordinal, and quantitative data are best expressed in different ways visually
- Data types often have inherent tasks
 - temporal data (comparison of events)
 - trees (understand parent-child relationships)

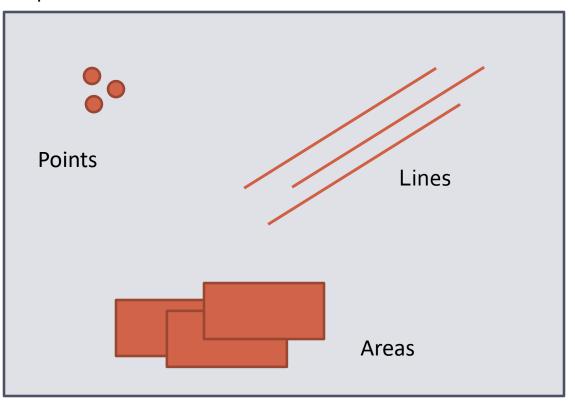
• But:

• • •

- any data type (1D, 2D,...) can be expressed in a multitude of ways!

Visualization's Main Building Blocks

Marks which represent:

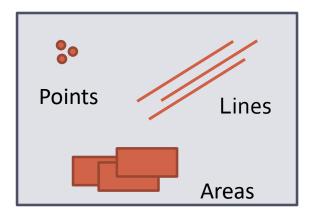


From Semiology of Graphics (Bertin)

The following slides on the topic adapted from Sheelagh Carpendale

Points

 "A point represents a location on the plane that has no theoretical length or area. This signification is independent of the size and character of the mark which renders it visible."

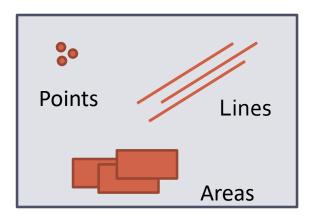


- a location
- marks that indicate points can vary in all visual variables

Lines

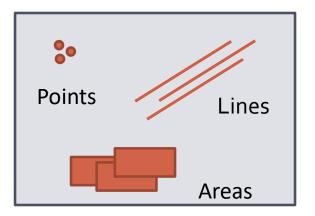
 "A line signifies a phenomenon on the plane which has measurable length but no area. This signification is independent of the width and characteristics of the mark which renders it visible."





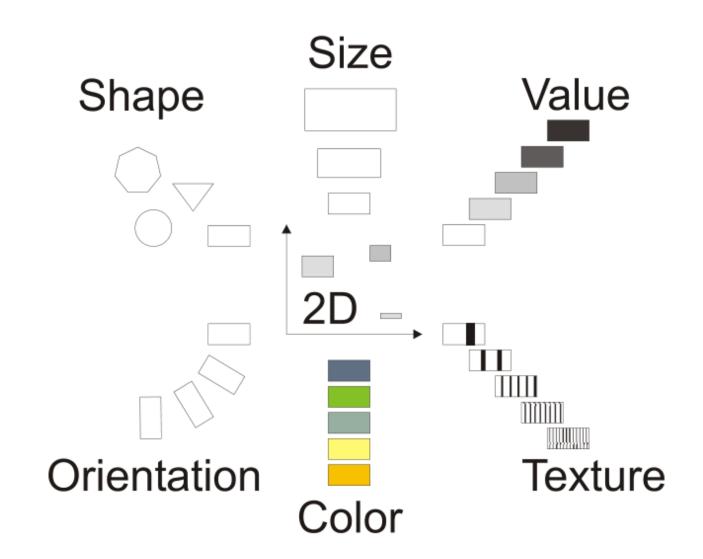
Areas

- "An area signifies something on the plane that has measurable size. This signification applies to the entire area covered by the visible mark."
- an area can change in position but not in size, shape or orientation without making the area itself have a different meaning



From Semiology of Graphics (Bertin)

Visual Variables Applicable to Marks



From Semiology of Graphics (Bertin)

colour as Bertin uses largely refers to hue, saturation != value

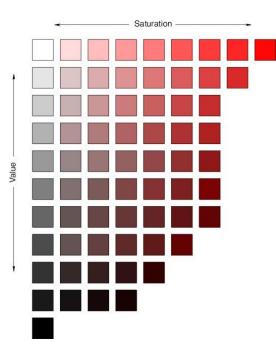
saturation

motion

Additional Variables for Computers

direction, acceleration, speed, frequency, onset, 'personality'





Extending those from Semiology of Graphics (Bertin)

Additional Variables for Computers

- flicker
 - frequency, rhythm, appearance
- depth? 'quasi' 3D
 - depth, occlusion, aerial perspective, binocular disparity
- Illumination

• transparency



Characteristics of Visual Variables

• Selective:

Can this variable allow us to spontaneously differentiate/isolate items from groups?

• Associative:

Can this variable allow us to spontaneously group items in a group?

• Ordered:

Can this variable allow us to spontaneously perceive an order?

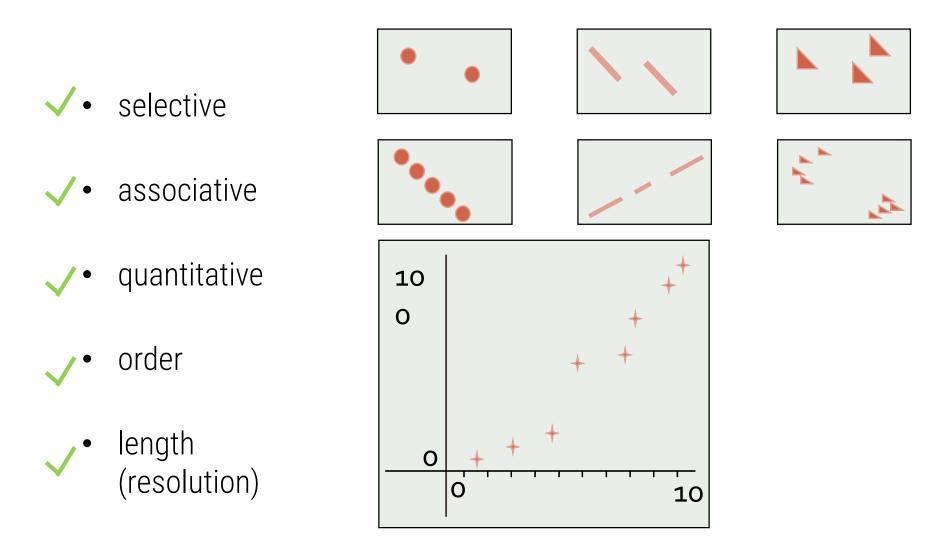
• Quantitative:

Can the difference between two marks in this variable be interpreted numerically ?

• Length (resolution):

Across how many changes in this variable are distinctions possible?

Visual Variable: Position

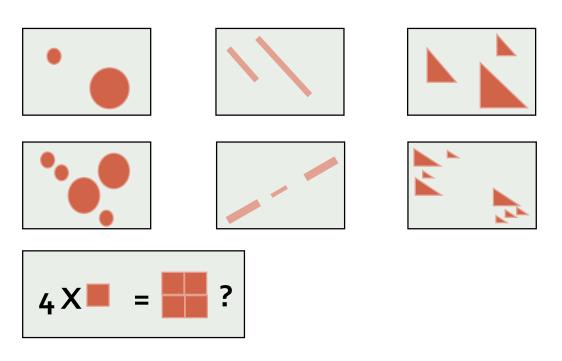


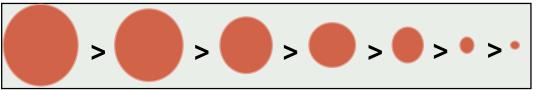
From Semiology of Graphics (Bertin)

Visual Variable: Size



- associative
- 🗠 quantitative
- ✓• order
- length (resolution)





Size



Visual Variable: Shape

∽ • selective









≠• ordered





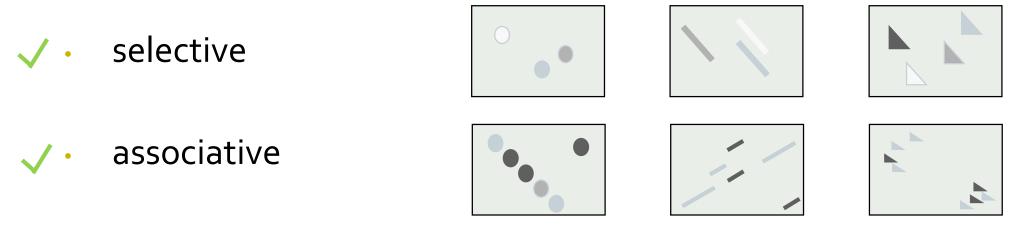
- length (resolution)
 - infinite



Shape



Visual Variable: Value



 \neq · quantitative



length (resolution)

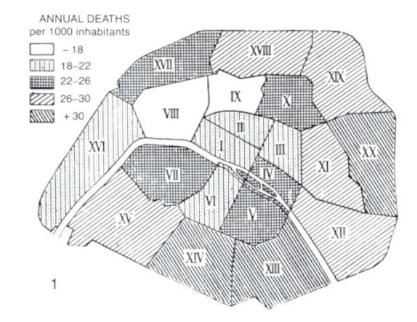
- theoretically infinite but practically limited
- association and selection ~ < 7 and distinction ~ 10

Value

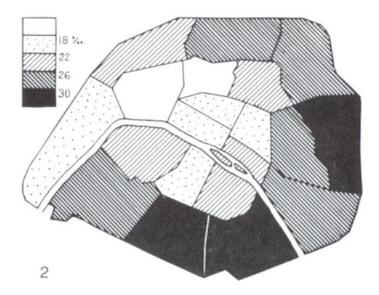


Value

ordered, cannot be reordered



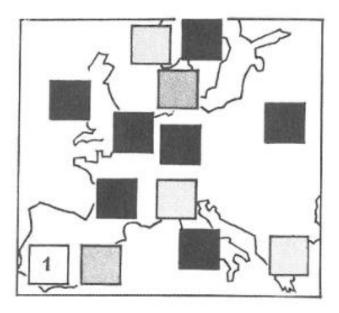
Values not ordered correctly according to scale Information has to be read point by point



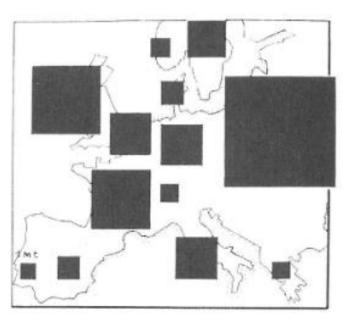
Values ordered correctly Image much more useful



is not quantitative

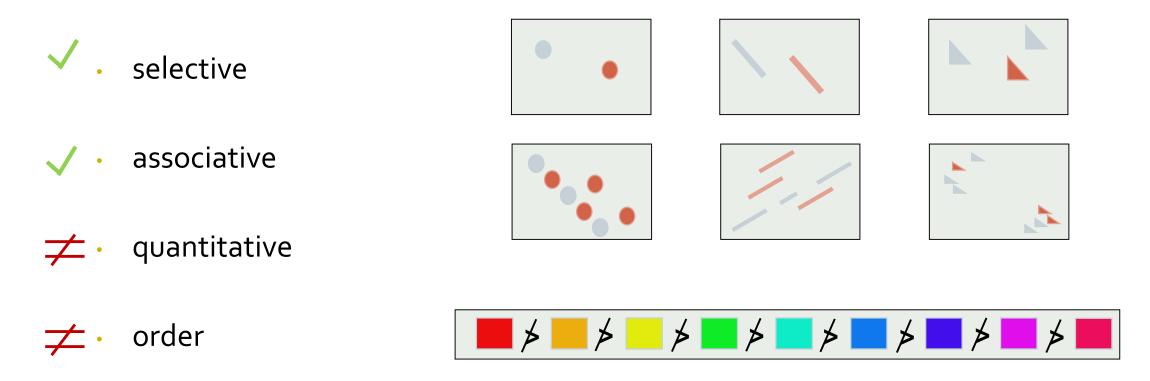


if Portugal is 1, what is France? you need a legend!



if Portugal is 1, what is France? still hard, but doable

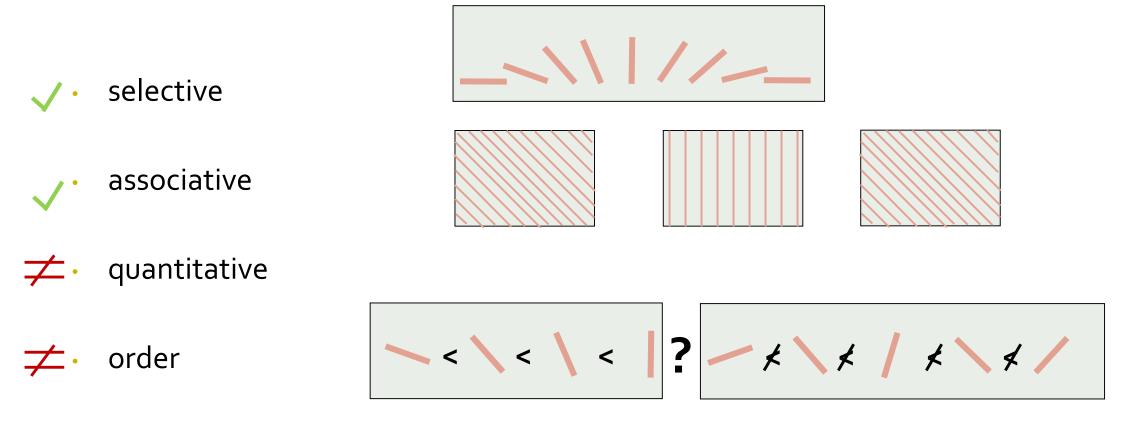
Visual Variable: Colour





- length (resolution)
 - theoretically infinite but practically limited
 - association and selection ~ < 7 and distinction ~ 10

Visual Variable: Orientation



- length (resolution)
 - ~5 in 2D; ? in 3D

Orientation

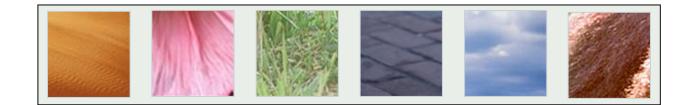


points

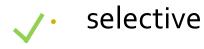
lines

areas

Visual Variable: Texture

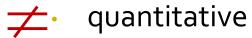






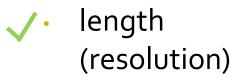


associative











• theoretically infinite

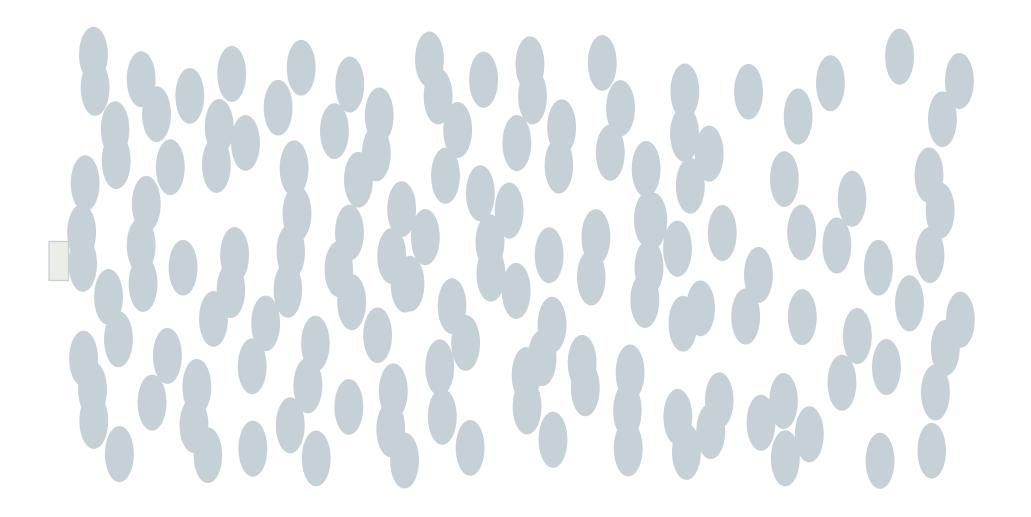
Texture



Visual Variable: Motion

- selective
 - motion is one of our most powerful attention grabbers
 - associative
 - moving in unison groups objects effectively
- ✓ quantitative
 - subjective perception
- **≠** order
- **?** length (resolution)
 - distinguishable types of motion?





Visual Variables

Visual Variable	Selective	Associative	Quantitative	Order	Length	
Position	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Dependant on resolution	
Size	Yes	Yes	Approximate	Yes	Association: 5; Distinction: 20	
Shape	With Effort	With Effort	No	No	Infinite	
Value	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Association: 7; Distinction: 10	
Hue	Yes	Yes	No	No	Association: 7; Distinction: 10	
Orientation	Yes	Yes	No	No	4	
Grain	Yes	Yes	No	No	5	
Texture	Yes	Yes	No	No	Infinite	
Motion	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Unknown	

Summary

	Quantitative		Ordinal		Nominal	
More Accurate	Position	•.•	Position		Position	•••
1	Length	=	Density		Hue	
	Angle	4	Saturation		Density	
	Slope	1-	Hue		Saturation	
	Area	••	Length	=	Shape	
	Density		Angle	4	Length	=
	Saturation		Slope	11	Angle	4
↓ ↓	Hue	•••	Area	••	Slope	1-
Less Accurate	Shape		Shape		Area	
	2 St.					

Jacques Bertin refined by Cleveland&McGill then by Card&Mackinlay

Summary

- Now you know the main building blocks are marks
- Marks are modified by visual variables
- Visual variables have specific characteristics
- These characteristics influence how the data will be perceived