Information Visualization Tables

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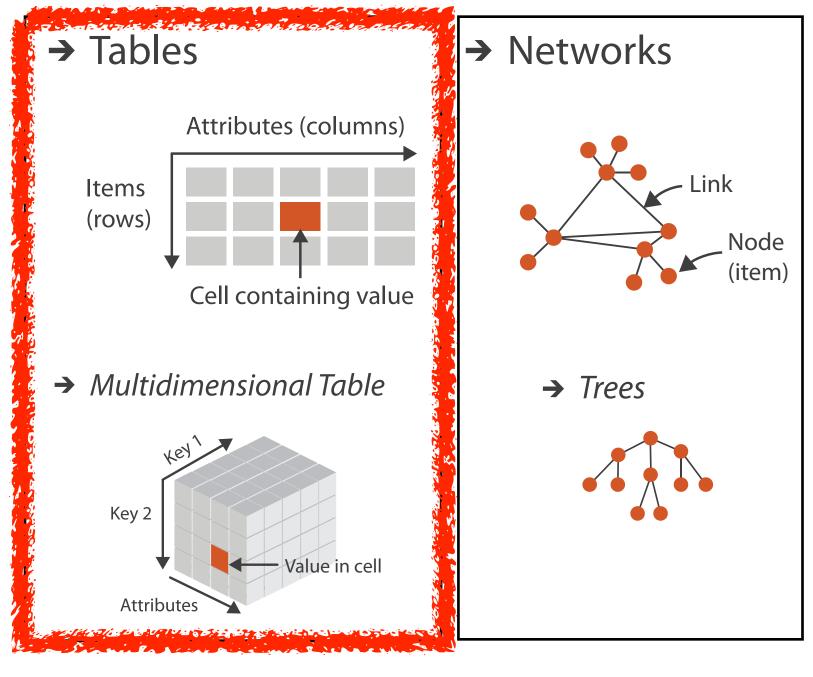
Lect 6/7, 23/28 Jan 2020

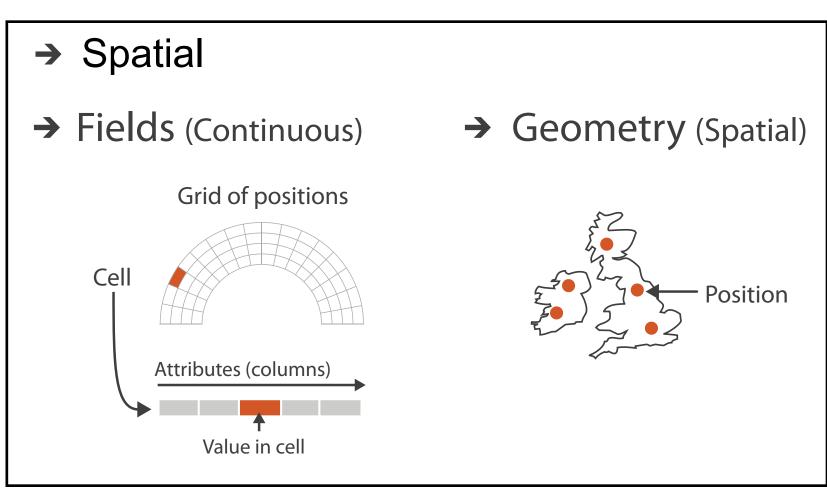
https://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm/courses/436V-20

Tables

Focus on Tables

Dataset Types





Exercise: Sketch 2 ways to visualize each table

	Age	Best 100 m	Furthest Jump	Sex
Amy	16	13.2	5.2	F
Basil	18	12.4	4.2	F
Clara	14	14.1	2.5	F
Desmond	22	10.01	6.3	М
Charles	19	11.3	5.3	М

	BPM T1	BPM T2	ВРМ ТЗ
Amy	90	130	150
Basil	70	110	109
Clara	60	140	141
Desmond	84	100	108
Charles	81	110	130

socrative: answer when done

Tackling tables

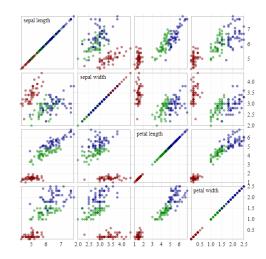
- homogeneity
 - -same data type? same scales?

- need different approaches based on scale
 - -how many attributes?
 - up to ~50: tractable with direct visual encoding
 - thousands: need transformations / analytical methods
 - -how many items?
 - up to IK: tractable with direct visual encoding
 - >> IOK: need transformations / analytical methods

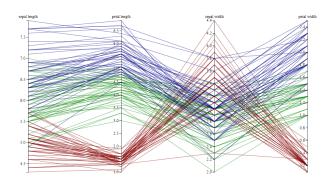
	Age	Gender	Height
Bob	25	M	181
Alice	22	F	185
Chris	19	M	175

	BPM 1	BPM 2	BPM 3
Bob	65	120	145
Alice	80	135	185
Chris	45	115	135

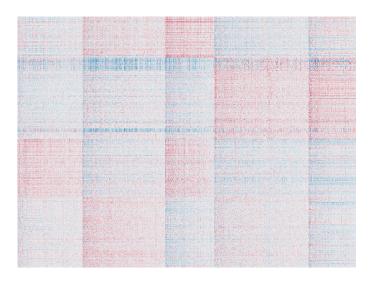
Analytic component



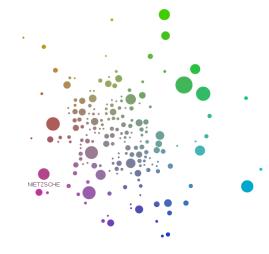
Scatterplot Matrices [Bostock]



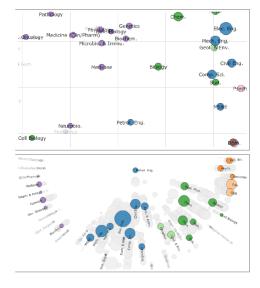
Parallel Coordinates [Bostock]



Pixel-based visualizations / heat maps



Multidimensional Scaling [Doerk 2011]



[Chuang 2012]

no / little analytics

strong analytics component

Tasks and techniques

Magnitude Distribution Deviation Correlation

Ranking Part to whole

Change over Time





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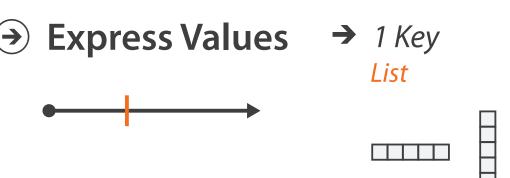
₹



https://github.com/ft-interactive/chart-doctor/tree/master/visual-vocabulary

Keys and values

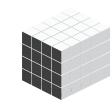
- key
 - -independent attribute
 - -used as unique index to look up items
 - -simple tables: I key
 - -multidimensional tables: multiple keys
- value
 - -dependent attribute, value of cell
- classify arrangements by key count
 - -0, 1, 2, many...



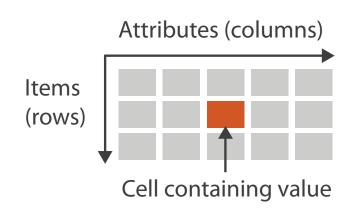




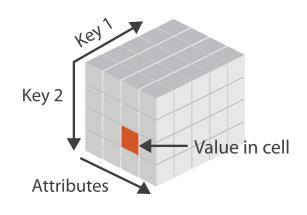
→ 3 Keys Volume



→ Tables



→ Multidimensional Table

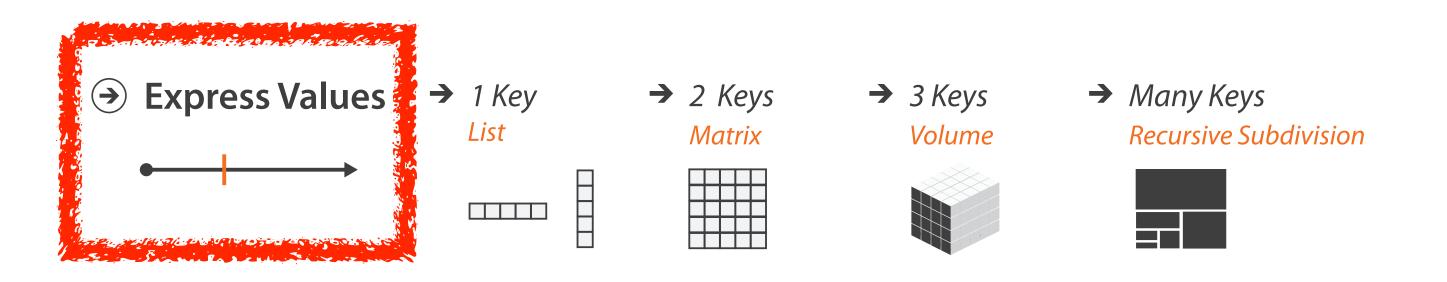


→ Many Keys

Recursive Subdivision



0 Keys: Express values (magnitudes)

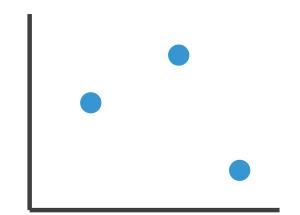


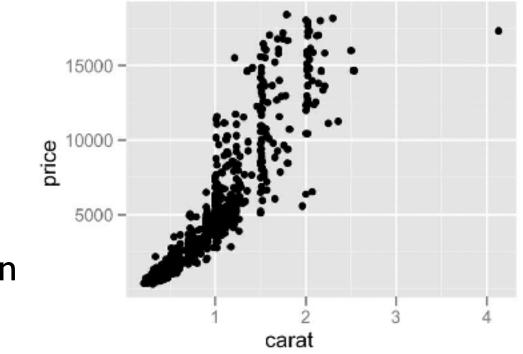
Idiom: scatterplot

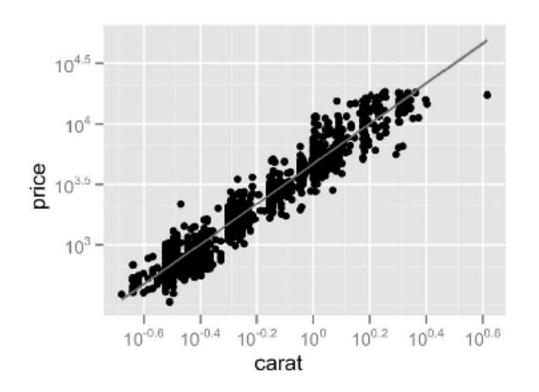
- express values
 - -quantitative attributes
- no keys, only values
 - -data
 - 2 quant attribs
 - -mark: points
 - -channels
 - horiz + vert position
 - -tasks
 - find trends, outliers, distribution, correlation, clusters
 - -scalability
 - hundreds of items





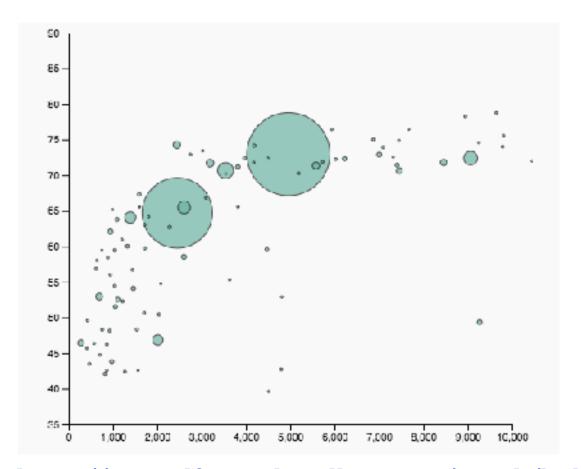


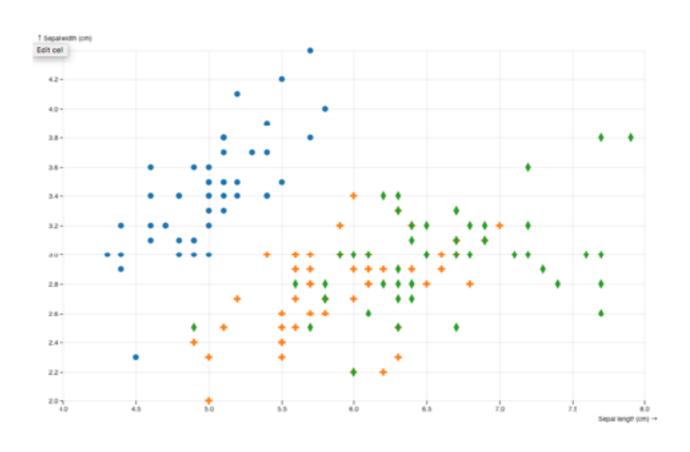




Scatterplots: Encoding more channels

- additional channels for point marks
 - -color
 - -size (bubbleplots)
 - square root since area grows quadratically, radius is misleading
 - -shape

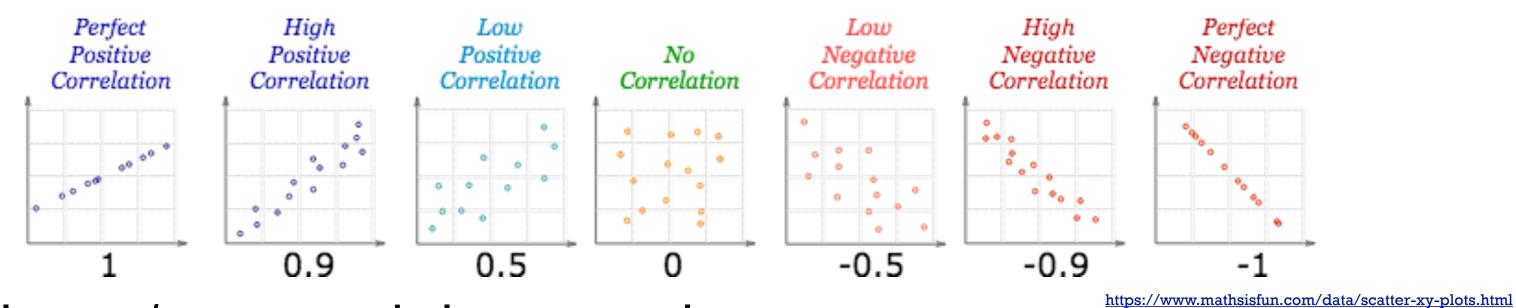




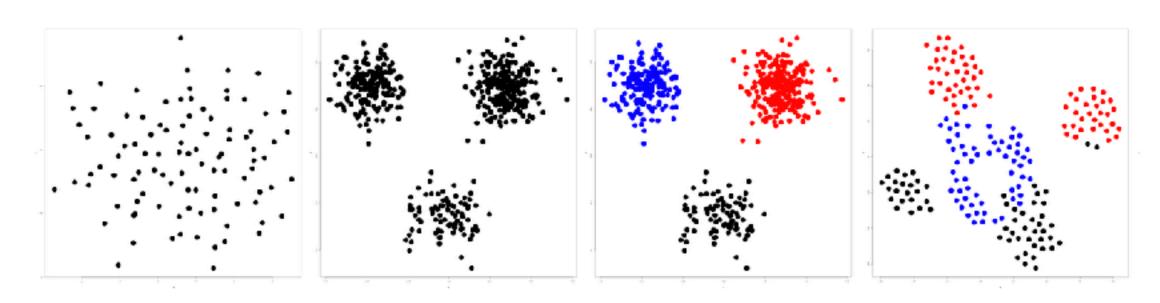
https://www.d3-graph-gallery.com/graph/bubble_basic.html

Scatterplot tasks

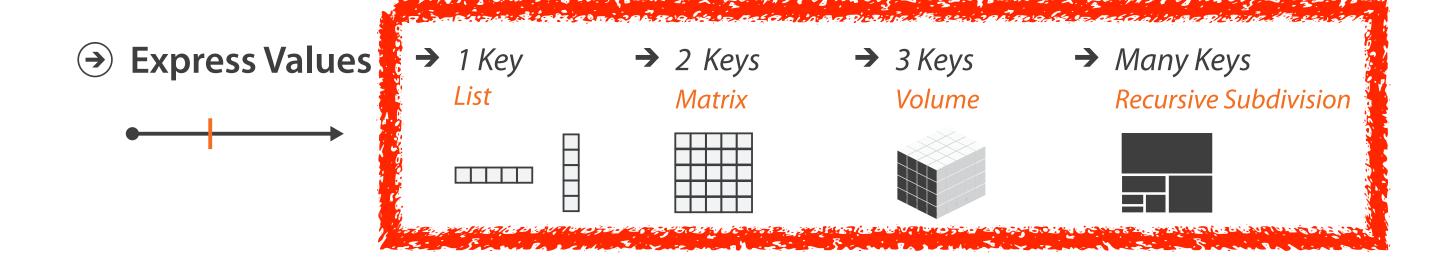
correlation



• clusters/groups, and clusters vs classes



Some keys



Some keys: Categorical regions

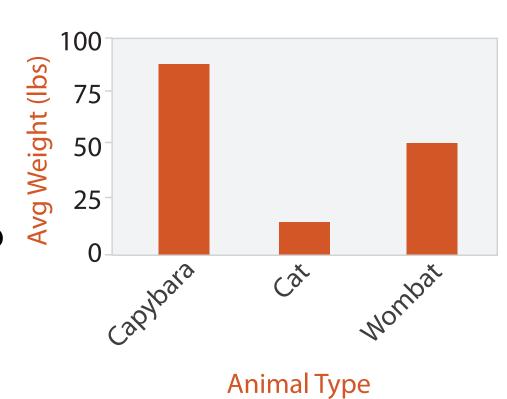
→ Separate → Order → Align

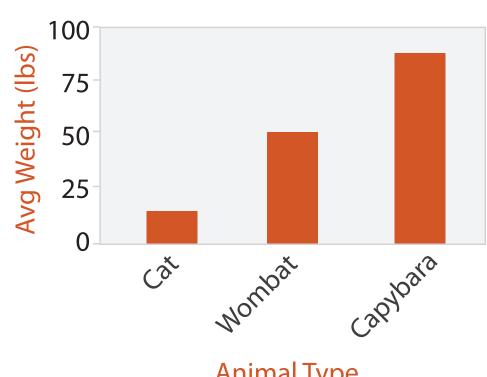
- regions: contiguous bounded areas distinct from each other
 - -using space to **separate** (proximity)
 - -following expressiveness principle for categorical attributes
- use ordered attribute to order and align regions



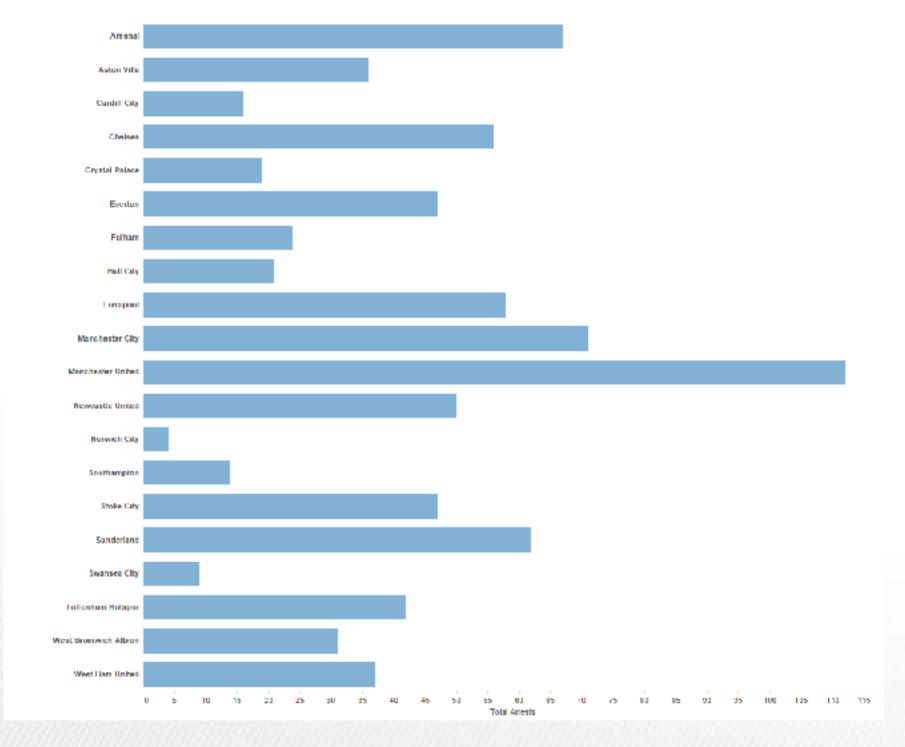
Idiom: bar chart

- one key, one value
 - -data
 - I categ attrib, I quant attrib
 - -mark: lines
 - -channels
 - length to express quant value
 - spatial regions: one per mark
 - separated horizontally, aligned vertically
 - ordered by quant attrib
 - by label (alphabetical), by length attrib (data-driven)
 - -task
 - compare, lookup values
 - -scalability
 - dozens to hundreds of levels for key attrib





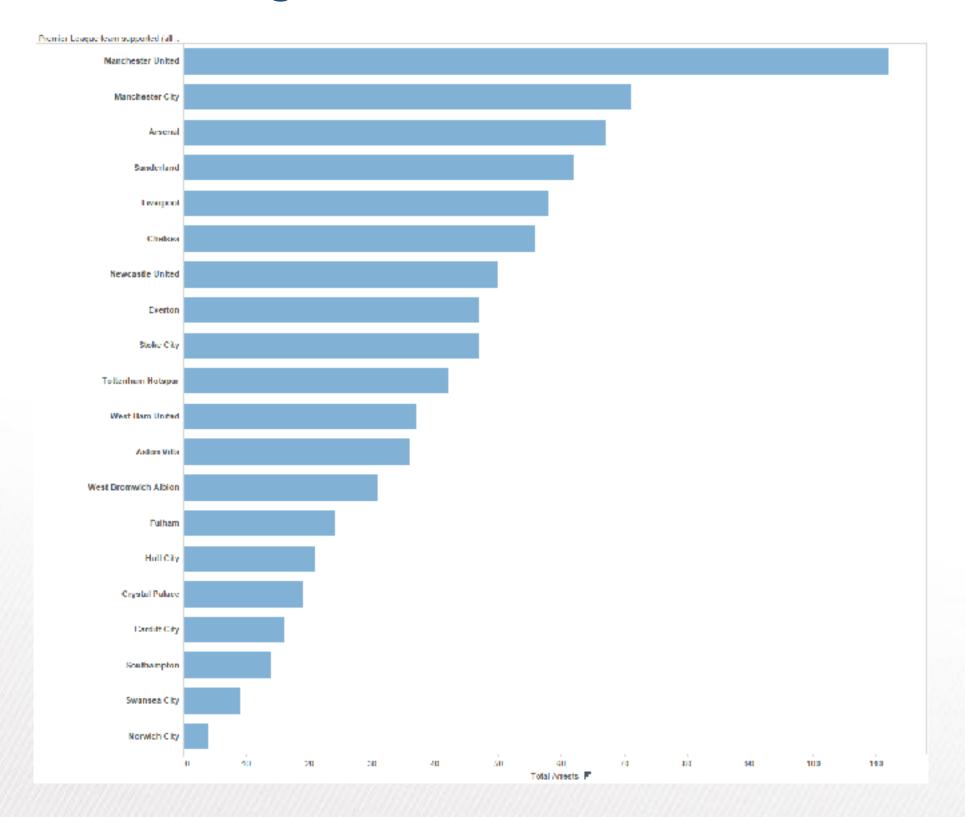
Separated and Aligned but not Ordered



LIMITATION: Hard to know rank. What's the 4th most? The 7th?

[Slide courtesy of Ben Jones]

Separated, Aligned and Ordered



[Slide courtesy of Ben Jones]

Separated but not Ordered or Aligned

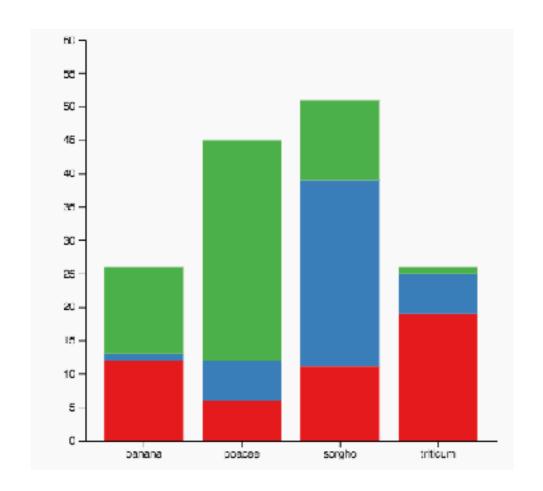


LIMITATION: Hard to make comparisons

[Slide courtesy of Ben Jones]

Idiom: stacked bar chart

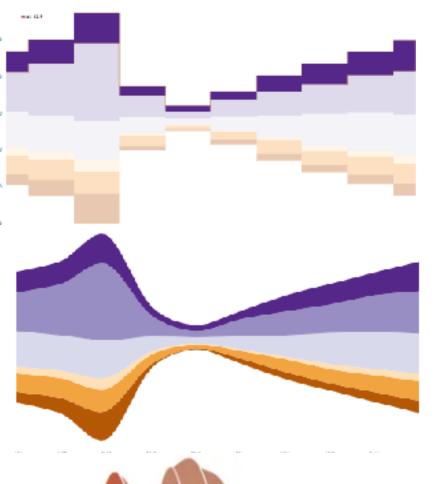
- one more key
 - -data
 - 2 categ attrib, I quant attrib
 - -mark: vertical stack of line marks
 - **glyph**: composite object, internal structure from multiple marks
 - -channels
 - length and color hue
 - spatial regions: one per glyph
 - aligned: full glyph, lowest bar component
 - unaligned: other bar components
 - -task
 - part-to-whole relationship
 - -scalability
 - several to one dozen levels for stacked attrib

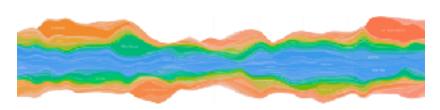


https://www.d3-graph-gallery.com/graph/barplot_stacked_basicWide.html

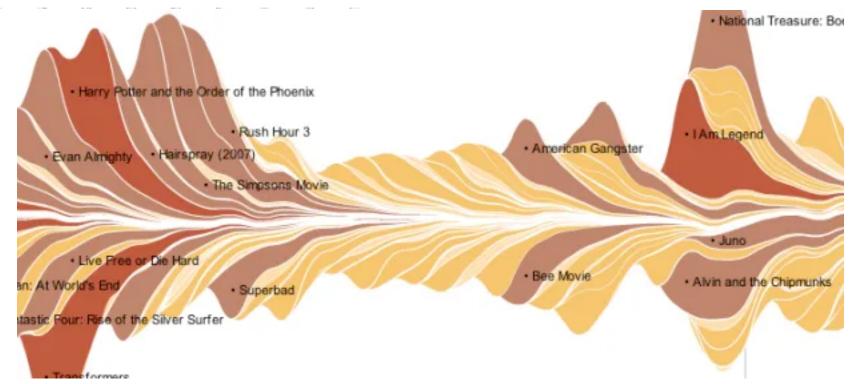
ldiom: streamgraph

- generalized stacked graph
 - -emphasizing horizontal continuity
 - vs vertical items
 - data
 - I categ key attrib (movies)
 - I ordered key attrib (time)
 - I quant value attrib (counts)
 - derived data
 - geometry: layers, where height encodes counts
 - I quant attrib (layer ordering)
 - scalability
 - hundreds of time keys
 - dozens to hundreds of movies keys
 - more than stacked bars, since most layers don't extend across whole chart





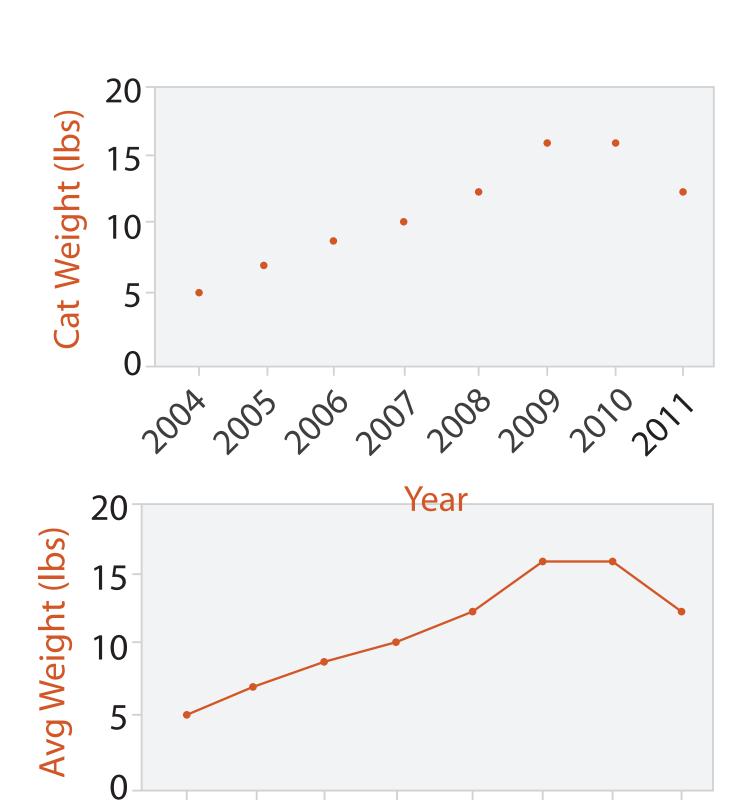
[Stacked Graphs Geometry & Aesthetics. Byron and Wattenberg. IEEE Trans. Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. InfoVis 2008) 14(6): 1245–1252, (2008).]



https://flowingdata.com/2008/02/25/ebb-and-flow-of-box-office-receipts-over-past-20-years/

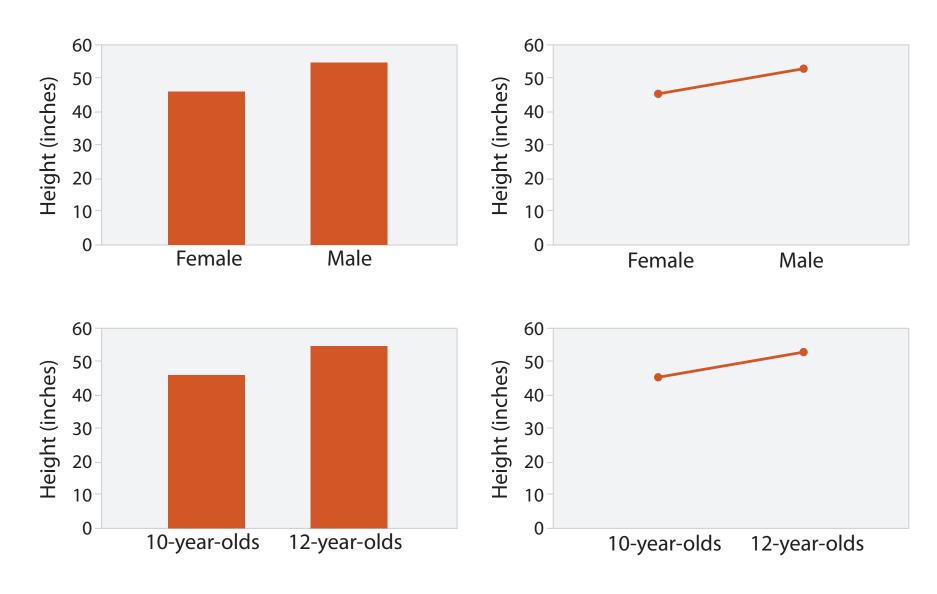
Idiom: dot plot / line chart

- one key, one value
 - data
 - 2 quant attribs
 - mark: pointsAND line connection marks between them
 - -channels
 - aligned lengths to express quant value
 - separated and ordered by key attrib into horizontal regions
 - -task
 - find trend
 - connection marks emphasize ordering of items along key axis by explicitly showing relationship between one item and the next
 - scalability
 - hundreds of key levels, hundreds of value levels



Choosing bar vs line charts

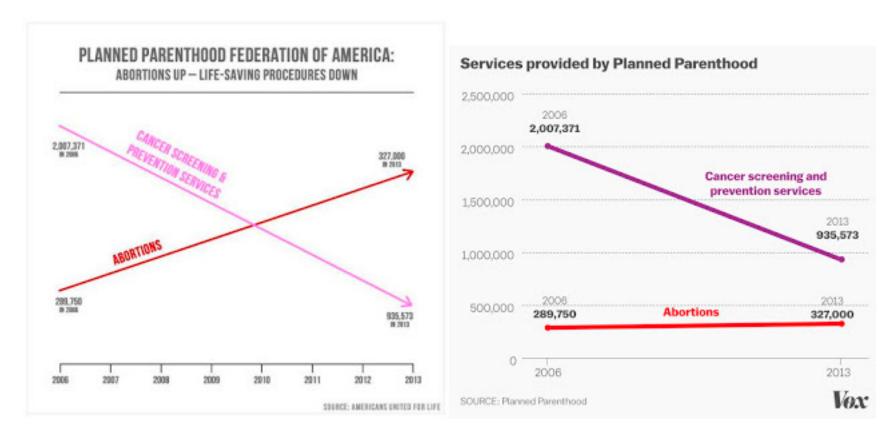
- depends on type of key attrib
 - -bar charts if categorical
 - -line charts if ordered
- do not use line charts for categorical key attribs
 - -violates expressivenessprinciple
 - implication of trend so strong that it overrides semantics!
 - "The more male a person is, the taller he/she is"

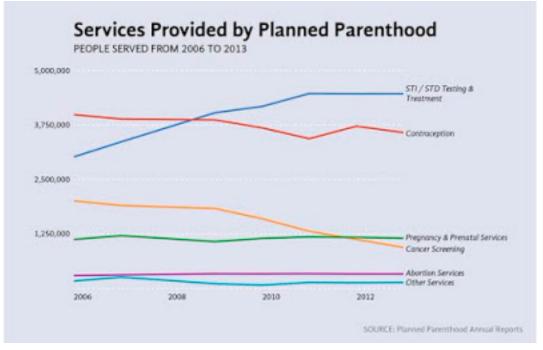


after [Bars and Lines: A Study of Graphic Communication. Zacks and Tversky. Memory and Cognition 27:6 (1999), 1073–1079.]

Chart axes

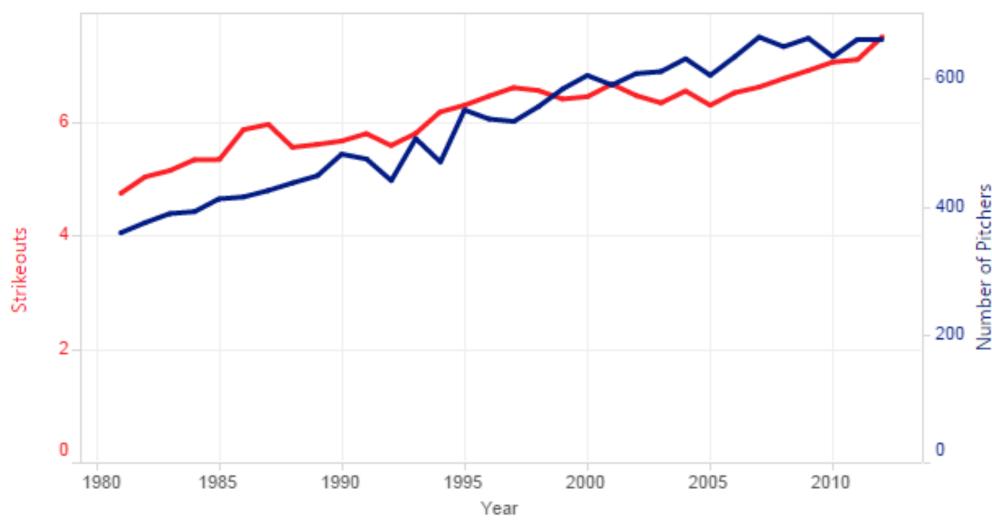
- labelled axis is critical
- avoid cropping y-axis
 - -include 0 at bottom left
 - -or slope misleads





Idiom: dual-axis line charts

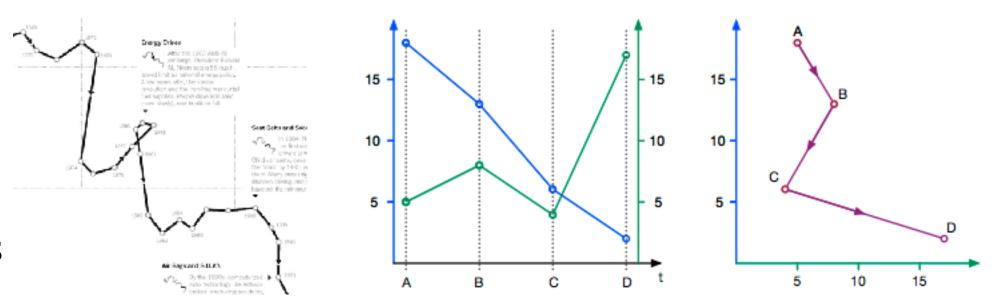
- controversial
 - -acceptable if commensurate
 - -beware, very easy to mislead!

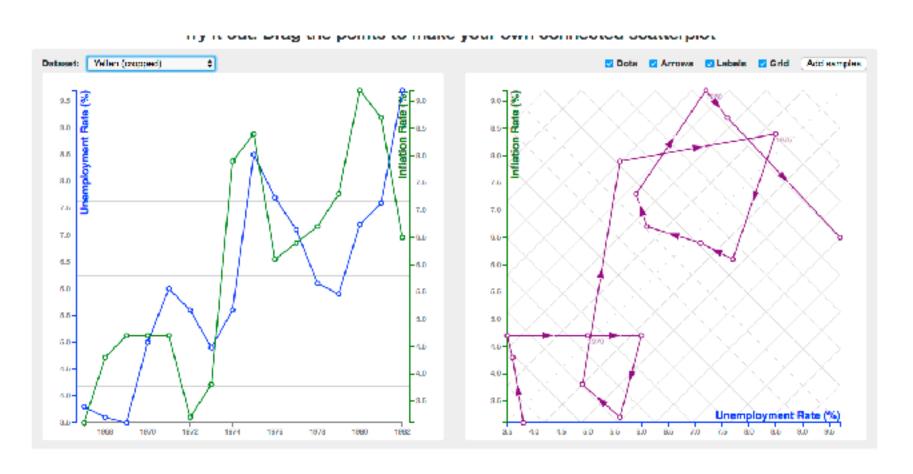


Source | http://www.baseball-reference.com/leagues/MLB/pitch.shtml Ben Jones (@DataRemixed) | 5/4/2013

Idiom: connected scatterplots

- scatterplot with line connection marks
 - -popular in journalism
 - horiz + vert axes: value attribs
 - line connection marks: temporal order
 - -alternative to dual-axis charts
 - horiz: time
 - vert: two value attribs
- empirical study
 - -engaging, but correlation unclear





Choosing line chart aspect ratios

- 1: banking to 45 (1980s)
 - -Cleveland perceptual argument: most accurate angle judgement at 45

Fig 7.1 Sunspot Data: Aspect Ratio 1

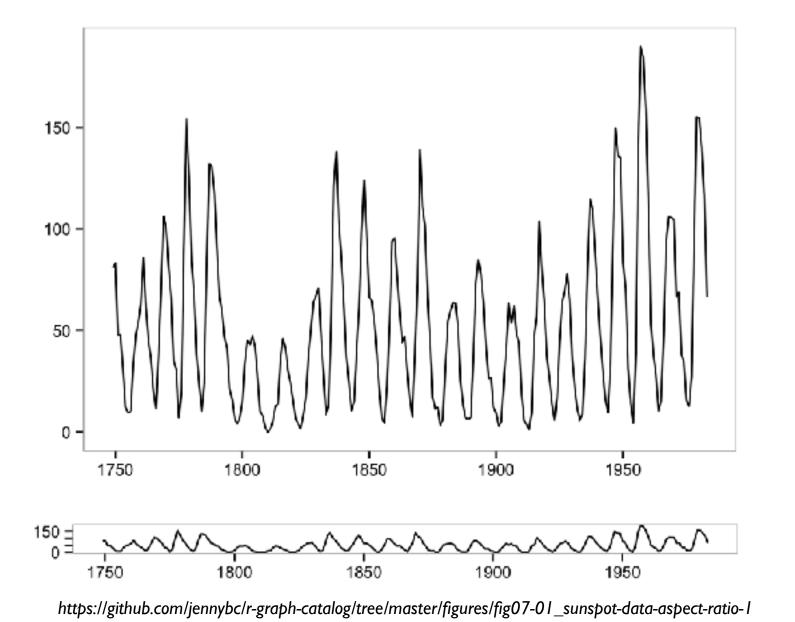
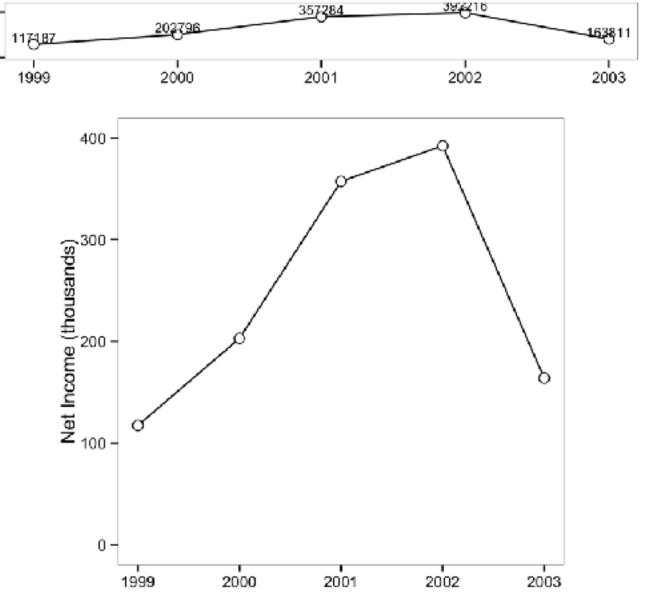


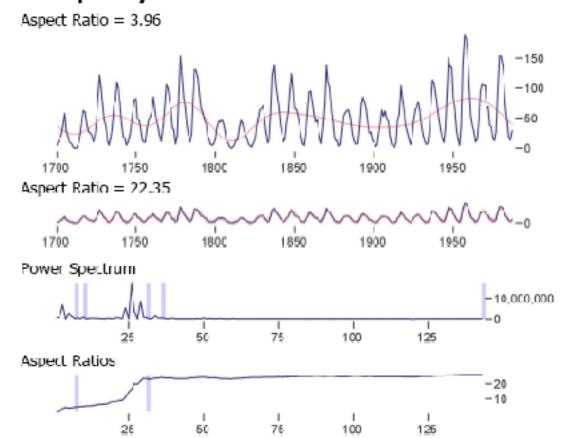
Fig 7.2 Annual Report: Aspect Ratio 2



Choosing line chart aspect ratios

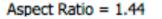
- 2: multi scale banking to 45 (2006)
 - frequency domain analysis to find ratios
 - FFT the data, convolve with Gaussian to smooth
 - find interesting spikes/ranges in power spectrum
 - cull nearby regions if similar, ensure overview
 - create trend curves (red) for each aspect ratio

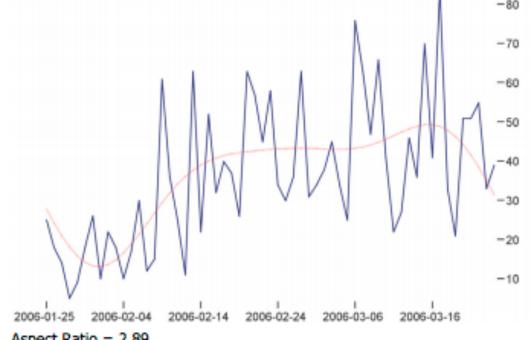
Sunspot Cycles



[Multi-Scale Banking to 45 Degrees. Heer and Agrawala, Proc InfoVis 2006]

Downloads of the prefuse toolkit

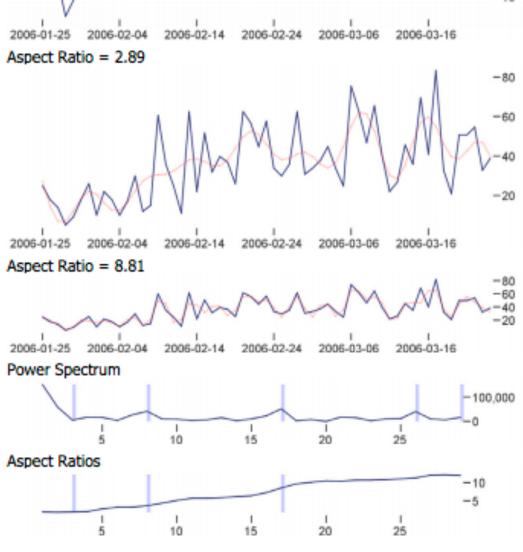




weekly

overall

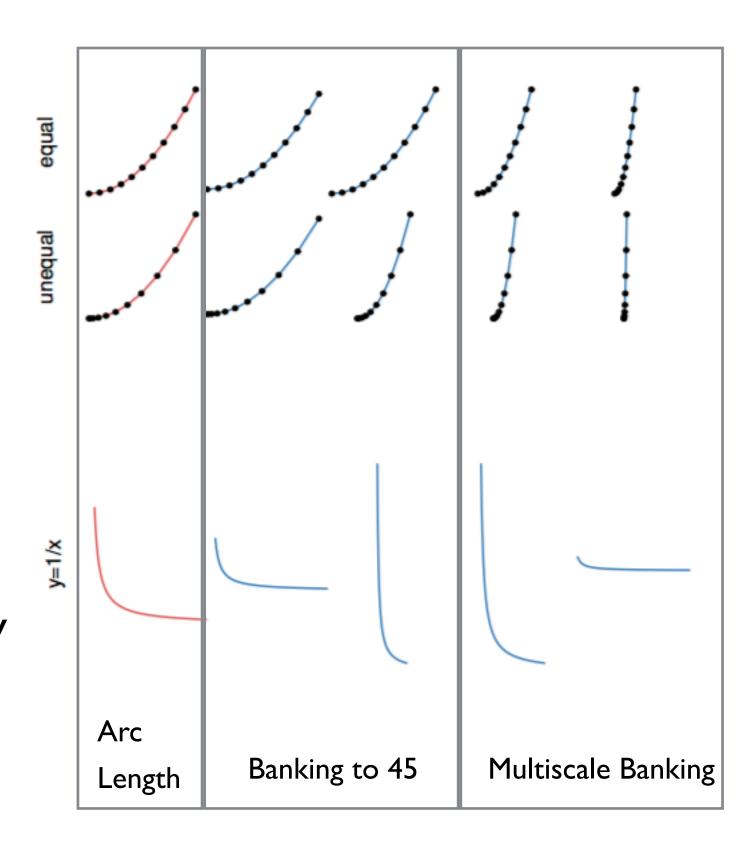




Choosing line chart aspect ratios

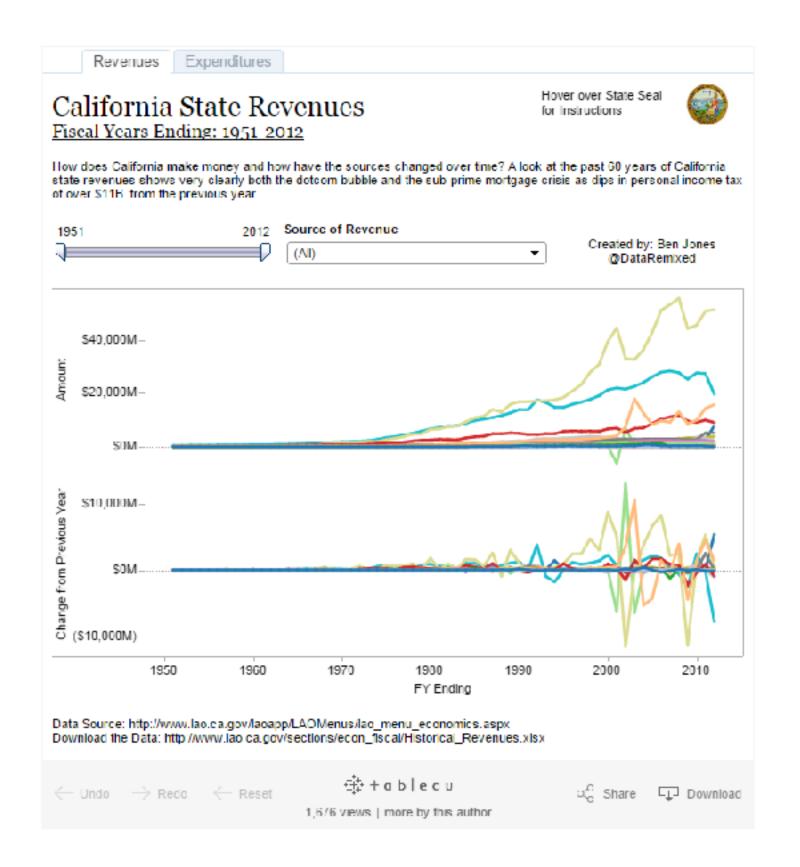
- 3: arc length based aspect ratio (2011)
 - -minimize the arc length of curve while keeping the area of the plot constant
 - -parametrization and scale invariant
 - -symmetry preserving
 - -robust & fast to compute

- meta-points from this progression
 - -young field; prescriptive advice changes rapidly
 - -reasonable defaults required deep dive into perception meets math



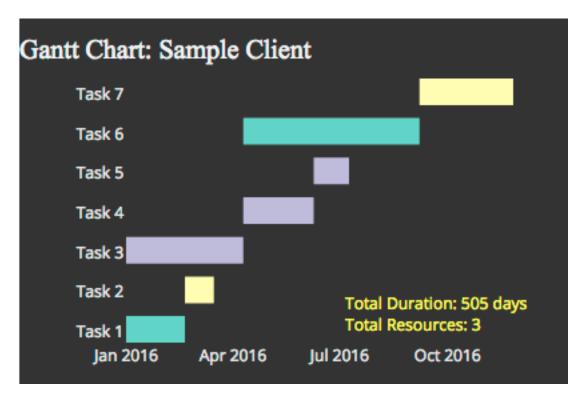
Idiom: Indexed line charts

- data: 2 quant attires
 - I key + I value
- derived data: new quant value attrib
 - index
 - -plot instead of original value
- task: show change over time
 - -principle: normalized, not absolute
- scalability
 - -same as standard line chart

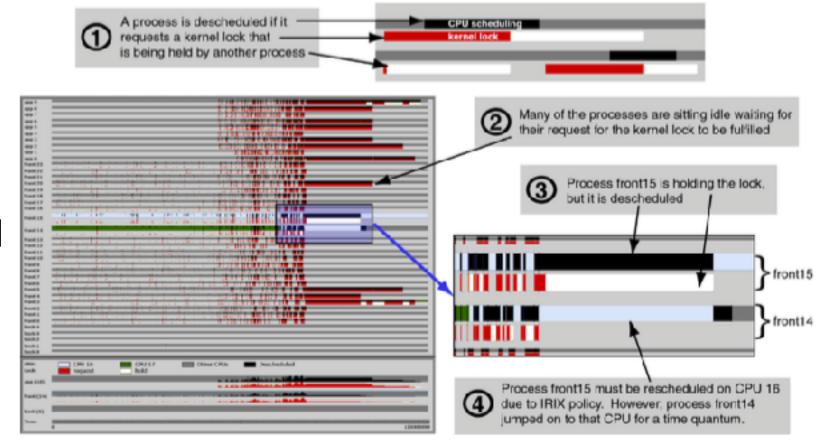


Idiom: Gantt charts

- one key, two (related) values
 - -data
 - I categ attrib, 2 quant attribs
 - -mark: line
 - length: duration
 - -channels
 - horiz position: start time (+end from duration)
 - -task
 - emphasize temporal overlaps, start/end dependencies between items
 - -scalability
 - dozens of key levels
 - hundreds of value levels



https://www.r-bloggers.com/gantt-charts-in-r-using-plotly/

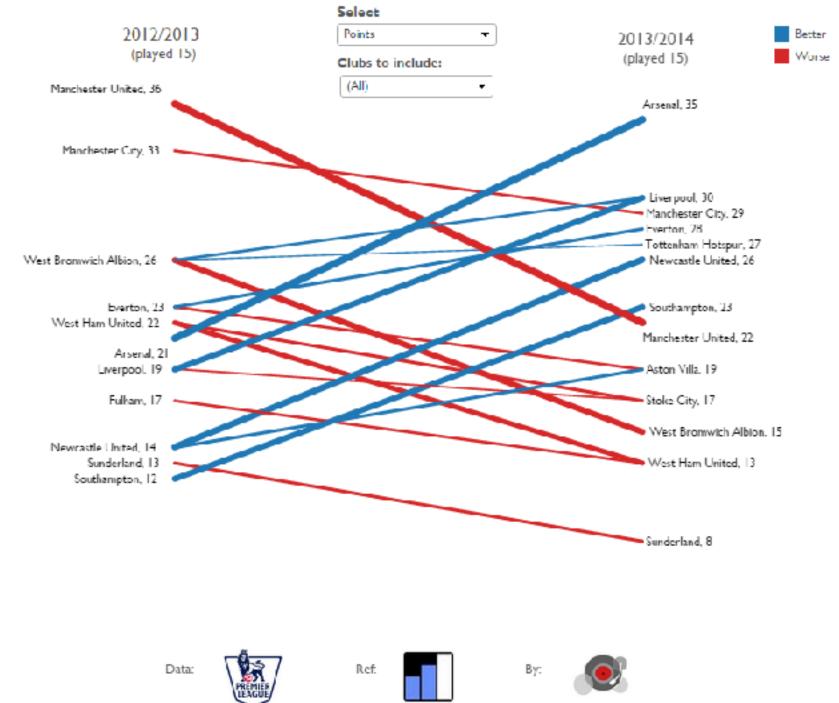


[Performance Analysis and Visualization of Parallel Systems Using SimOS and Rivet: A Case Study. Bosch, Stolte, Stoll, Rosenblum, and Hanrahan. Proc. HPCA 2000.]

Idiom: Slopegraphs

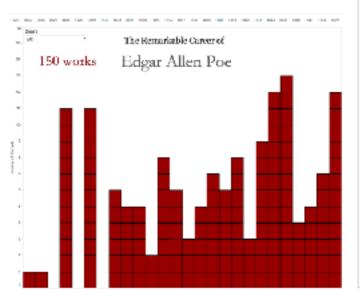
- two values
 - data
 - 2 quant value attribs
 - (I derived attrib: change magnitude)
 - mark: point + line
 - line connecting mark between pts
 - channels
 - 2 vertical pos: express attrib value
 - (linewidth/size, color)
 - task
 - emphasize changes in rank/value
 - scalability
 - hundreds of value levels

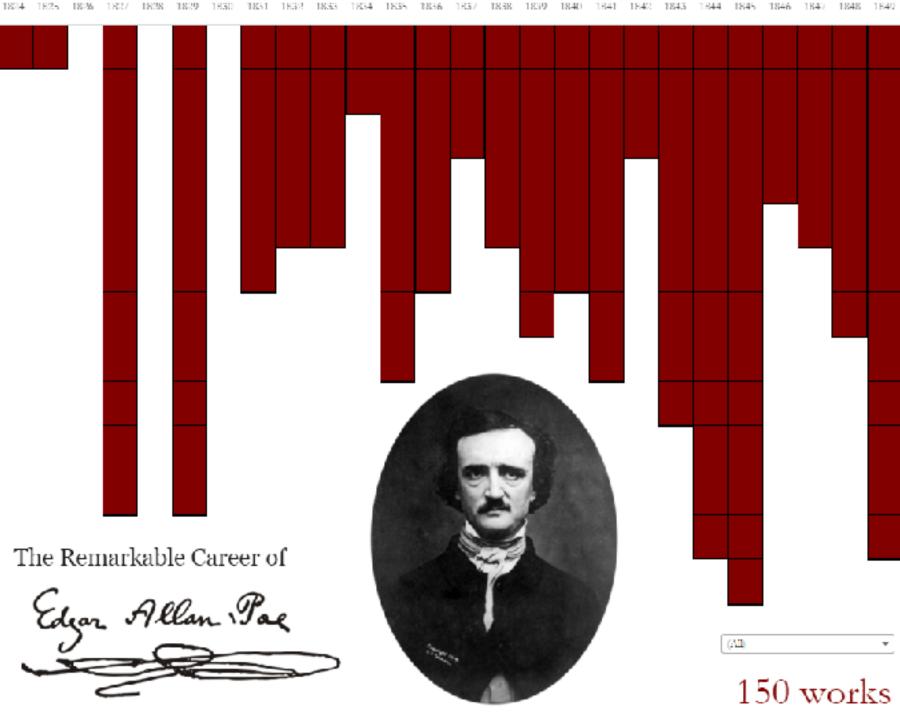
Barclay's Premier League Tables: Comparing 2012/2013 Starts to 2013/2014 Starts



Breaking conventions

- presentation vs exploration
 - -engaging/evocative
 - -inverted y axis
 - blood drips down on Poe





Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edgar Allan Poe bibliography

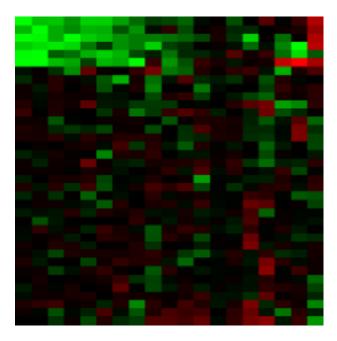
Ben Jones, 7 October 2015

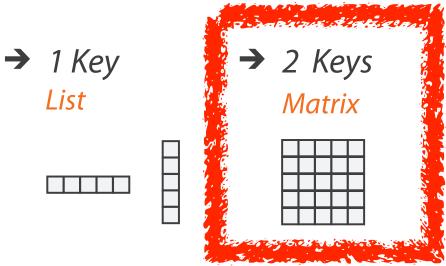
2 Keys



Idiom: heatmap

- two keys, one value
 - -data
 - 2 categ attribs (gene, experimental condition)
 - I quant attrib (expression levels)
 - -marks: point
 - separate and align in 2D matrix
 - indexed by 2 categorical attributes
 - -channels
 - color by quant attrib
 - (ordered diverging colormap)
 - -task
 - find clusters, outliers
 - -scalability
 - IM items, 100s of categ levels, ~10 quant attrib levels



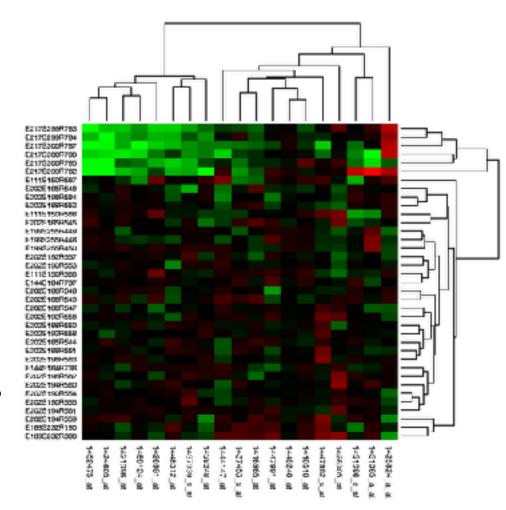






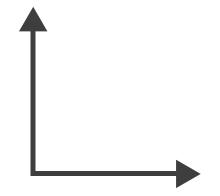
ldiom: cluster heatmap

- in addition
 - -derived data
 - 2 cluster hierarchies
 - -dendrogram
 - parent-child relationships in tree with connection line marks
 - leaves aligned so interior branch heights easy to compare
 - -heatmap
 - marks (re-)ordered by cluster hierarchy traversal
 - task: assess quality of clusters found by automatic methods

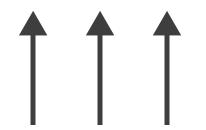


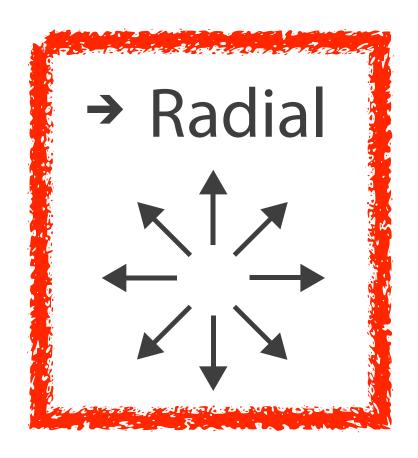
Axis Orientation

→ Rectilinear



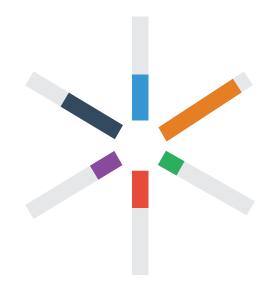
→ Parallel

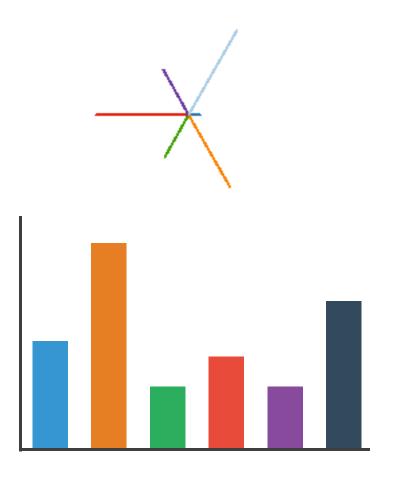




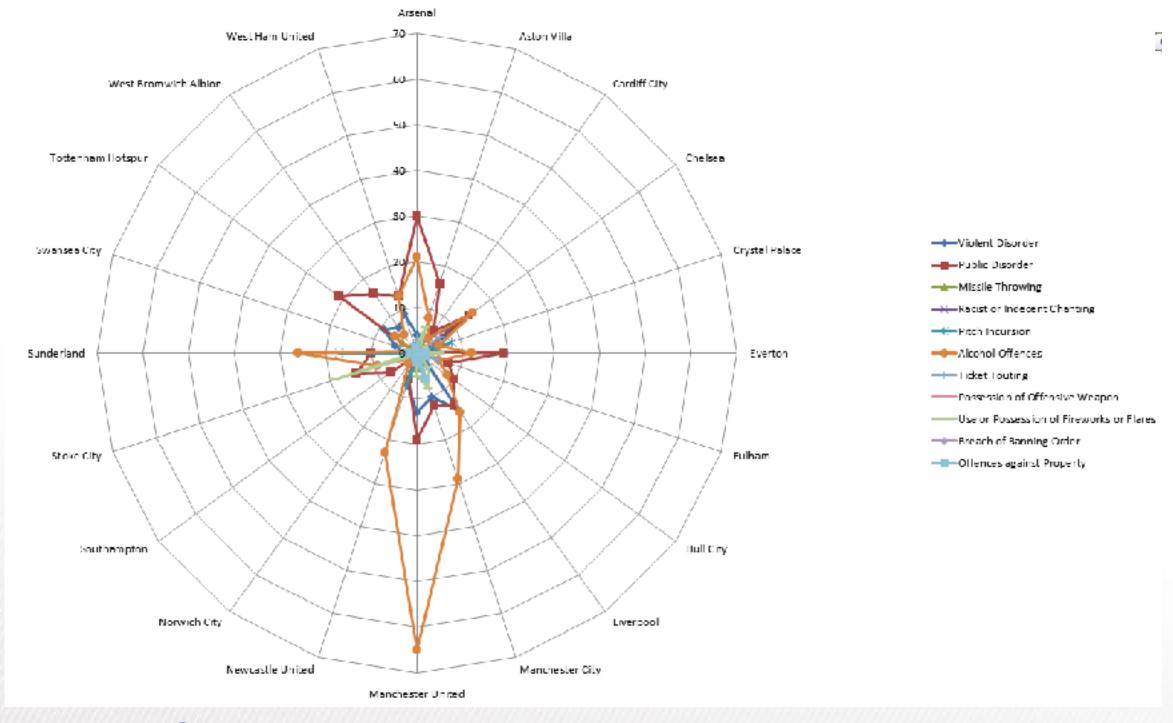
ldioms: radial bar chart, star plot

- radial bar chart
 - -radial axes meet at central ring, line mark
- star plot
 - -radial axes, meet at central point, line mark
- bar chart
 - -rectilinear axes, aligned vertically
- accuracy
 - -length unaligned with radial
 - less accurate than aligned with rectilinear





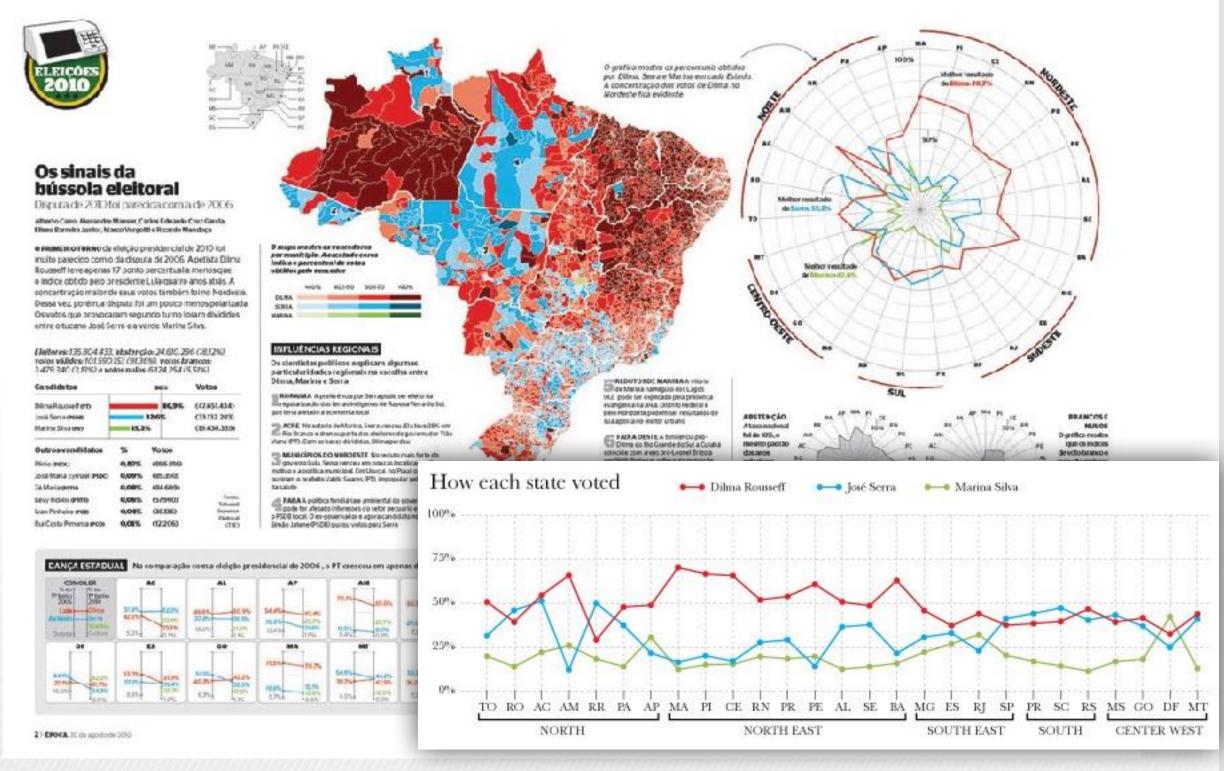
Radial Orientation: Radar Plots



LIMITATION: Not good when categories aren't cyclic

[Slide courtesy of Ben Jones]

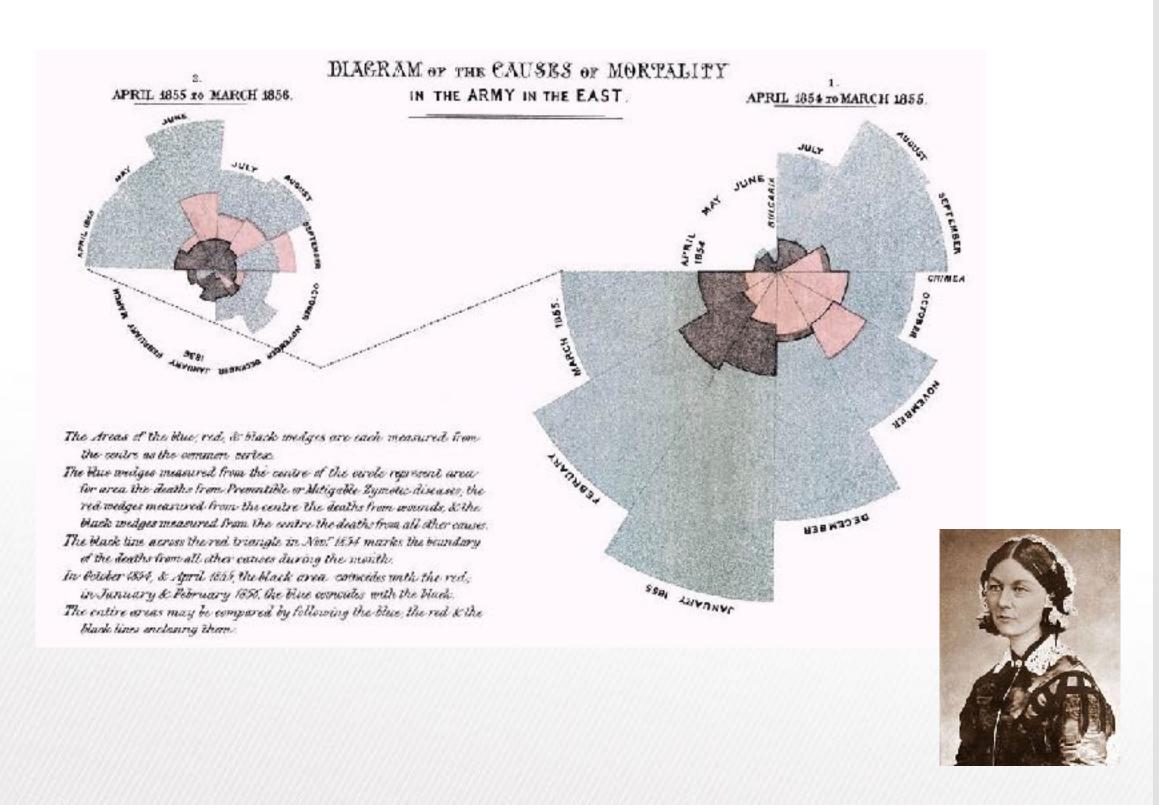
"Radar graphs: Avoid them (99.9% of the time)"



http://www.thefunctionalart.com/2012/11/radar-graphs-avoid-them-999-of-time.html

[Slide courtesy of Ben Jones]

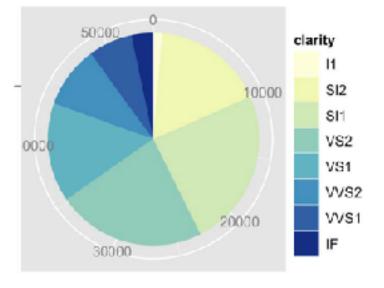
"Diagram of the causes of mortality in the army in the East" (1858)

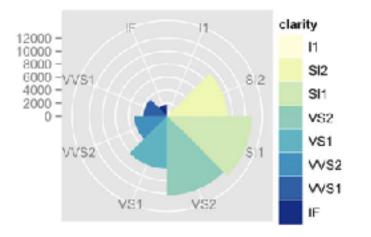


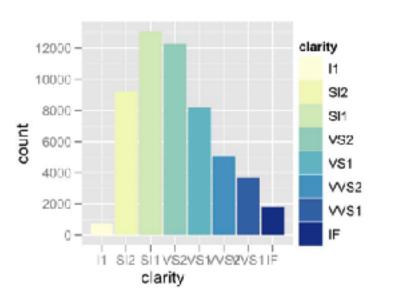
Idioms: pie chart, polar area chart

- pie chart
 - -line marks with angle channel: variable (sector) width
 - -separated & aligned radially, uniform height
 - -perceived: probably not angle! maybe area or arc length
 - -accuracy: all are less accurate than line length
- polar area chart
 - -line marks with length channel: variable length
 - separated & aligned radially, uniform width
 - -more direct analog to bar charts
- data
 - I categ key attrib, I quant value attrib
- task



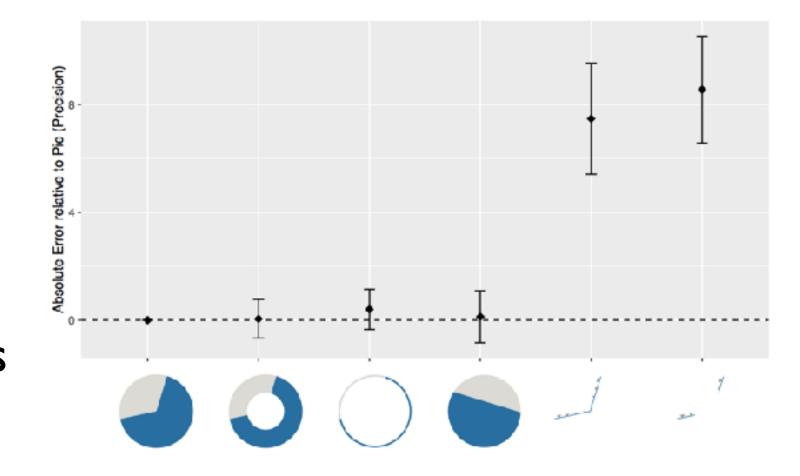






Pie chart perception

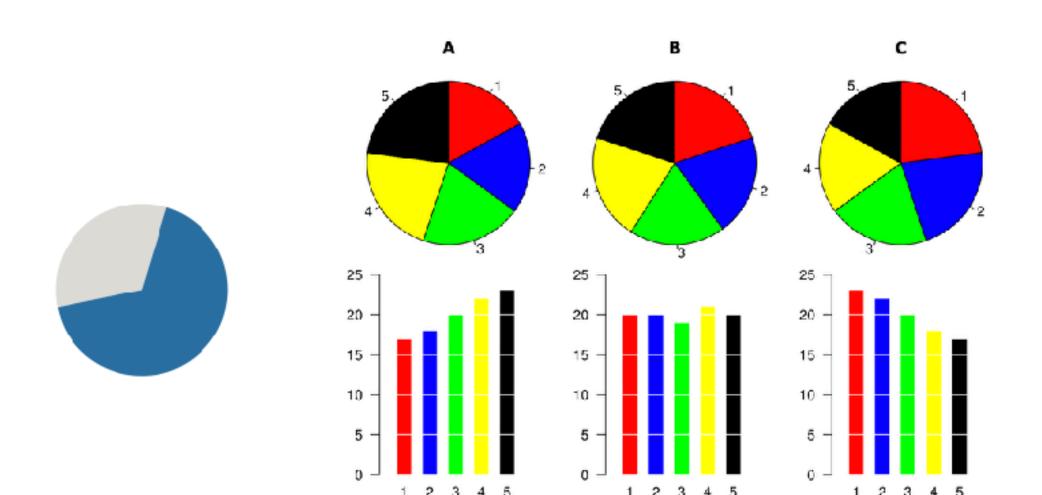
- some empirical evidence that people respond to arc length
 - not angles
 - -maybe also areas?...
- donut charts no worse than pie charts

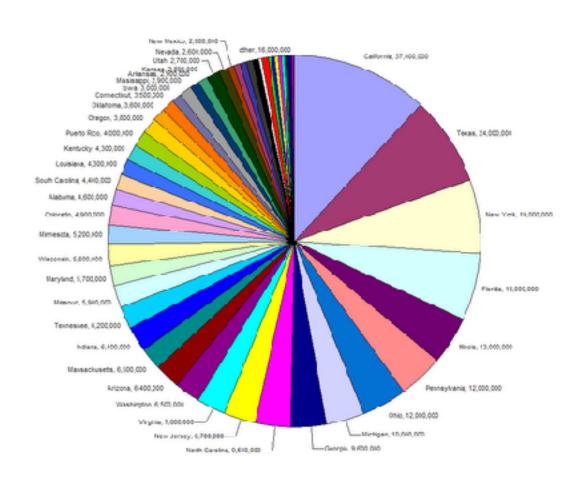


[Arcs, Angles, or Areas: Individual Data Encodings in Pie and Donut Charts. Skau and Kosara. Proc. EuroVis 2016.]

Pie chart best practices

- not bad for two (or few) levels, for part-to-whole task
- dubious for several levels if details matter
- terrible for many levels

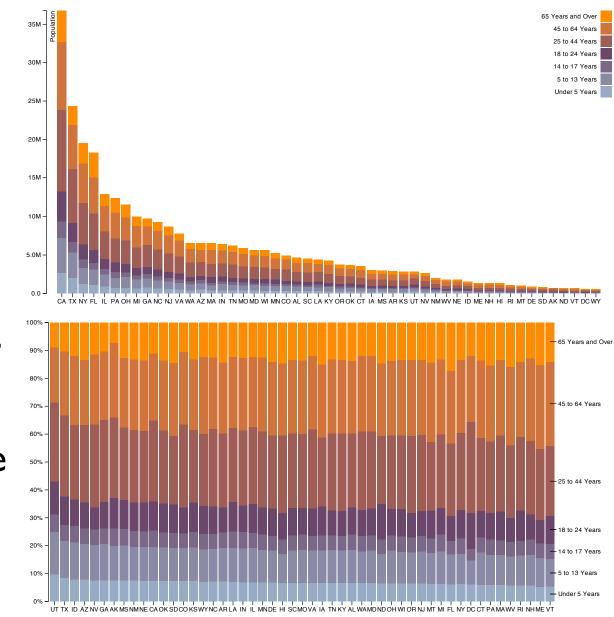




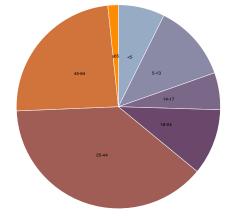
https://eagereyes.org/pie-charts

Idioms: normalized stacked bar chart

- task
 - -part-to-whole judgements
- normalized stacked bar chart
 - -stacked bar chart, normalized to full vert height
 - -single stacked bar equivalent to full pie
 - high information density: requires narrow rectangle
- pie chart
 - -information density: requires large circle

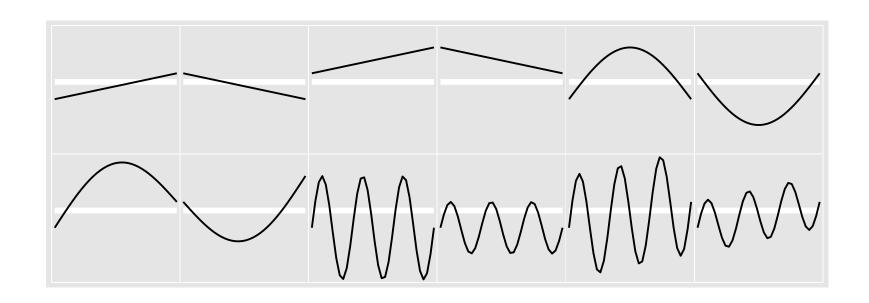


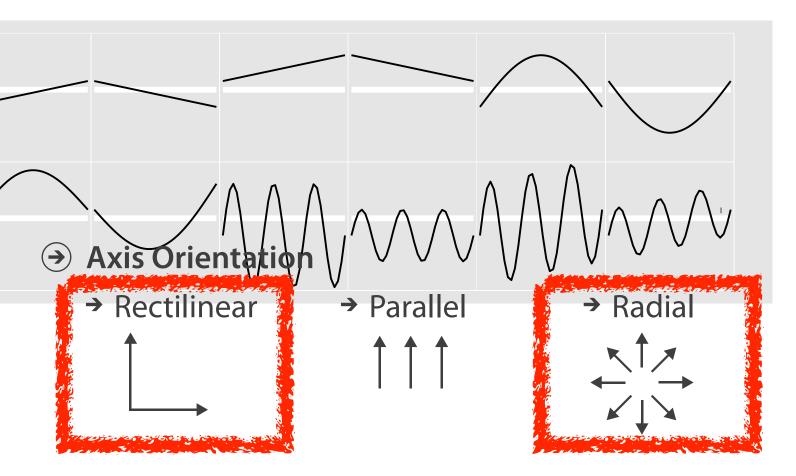
http://bl.ocks.org/mbostock/3886208, http://bl.ocks.org/mbostock/3887235, http://bl.ocks.org/mbostock/3886394.

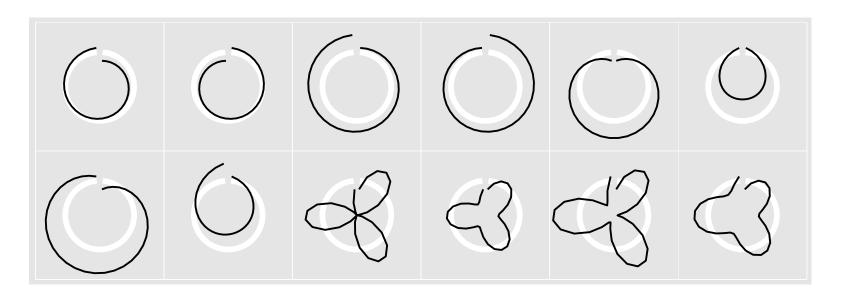


ldiom: glyphmaps

 rectilinear good for linear vs nonlinear trends

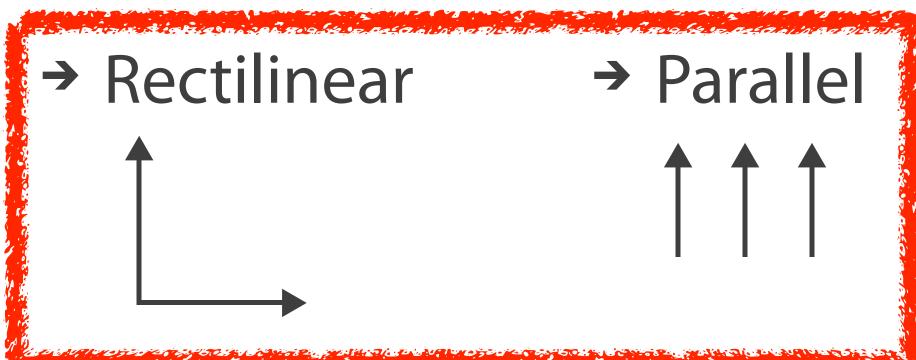




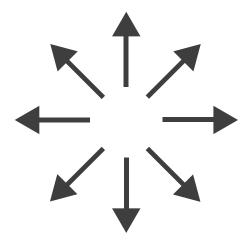


[Glyph-maps for Visually Exploring Temporal Patterns in Climate Data and Models.Wickham, Hofmann, Wickham, and Cook. Environmetrics 23:5 (2012), 382–393.]

Axis Orientation

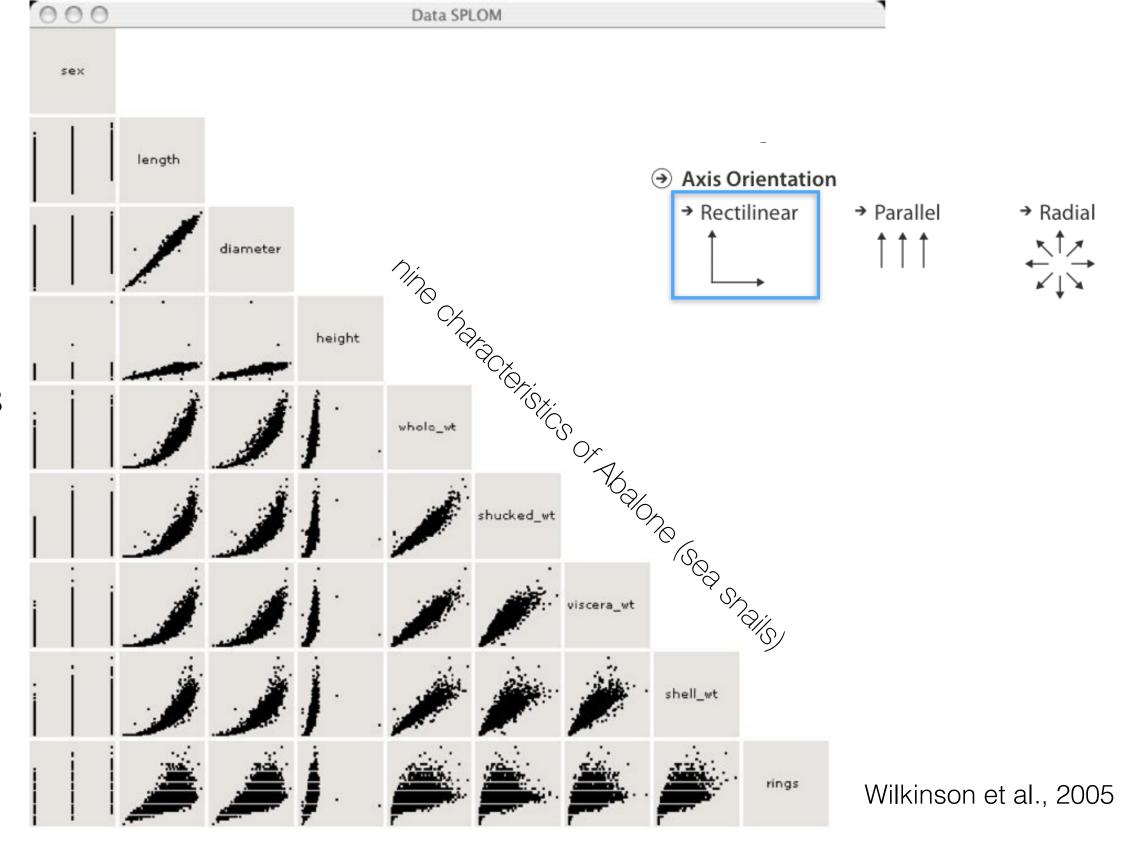






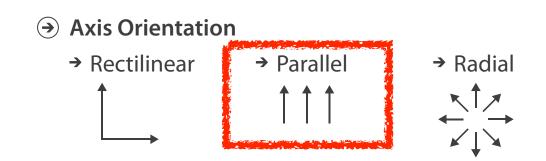
Idiom: SPLOM

- scatterplot matrix (SPLOM)
 - rectilinear axes,point mark
 - -all possible pairs of axes
 - -scalability
 - one dozen attribs
 - dozens to hundreds of items



Idioms: parallel coordinates

- scatterplot limitation
 - -visual representation with orthogonal axes
 - -can show only two attributes with spatial position channel
- alternative: line up axes in parallel to show many attributes with position
 - item encoded with a line with n segments
 - -n is the number of attributes shown
- parallel coordinates
 - -parallel axes, jagged line for item
 - -rectilinear axes, item as point
 - axis ordering is major challenge
 - scalability
 - dozens of attribs
 - hundreds of items



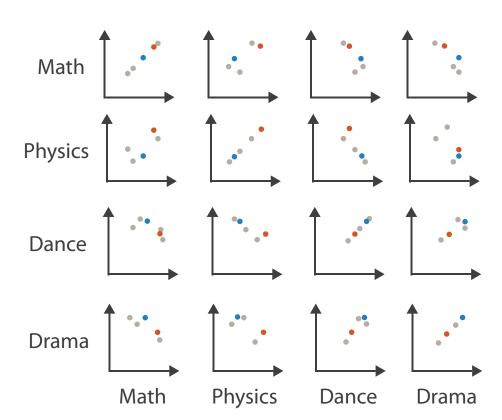
	131313		
Math	Physics	Dance	
0.5	0.5	70	

	,		
85	95	70	65
90	80	60	50
65	50	90	90
50	40	95	80
40	60	80	90

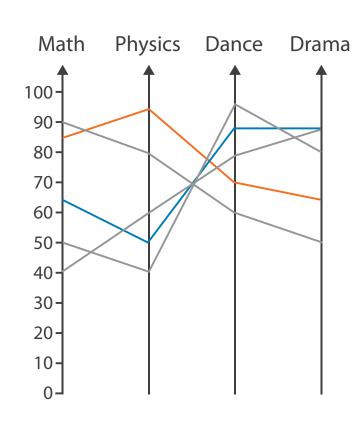
Table

Drama

Scatterplot Matrix

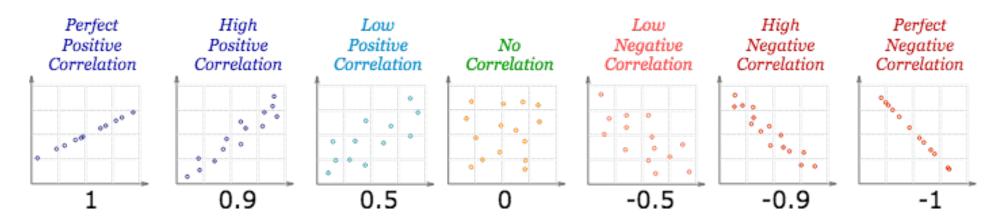


Parallel Coordinates



Task: Correlation

- scatterplot matrix
 - -positive correlation
 - diagonal low-to-high
 - -negative correlation
 - diagonal high-to-low
 - -uncorrelated: spread out
- parallel coordinates
 - -positive correlation
 - parallel line segments
 - -negative correlation
 - all segments cross at halfway point
 - -uncorrelated
 - scattered crossings



https://www.mathsisfun.com/data/scatter-xy-plots.html

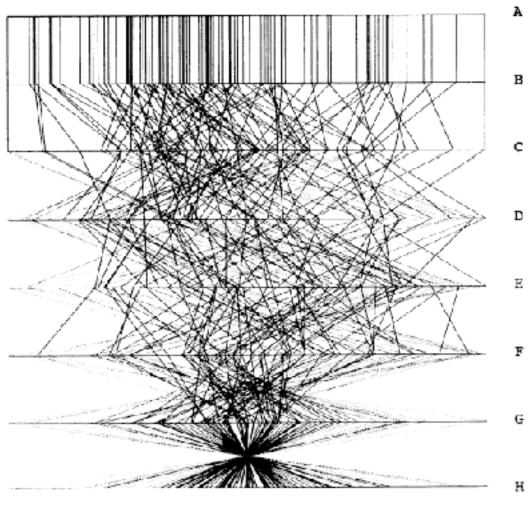
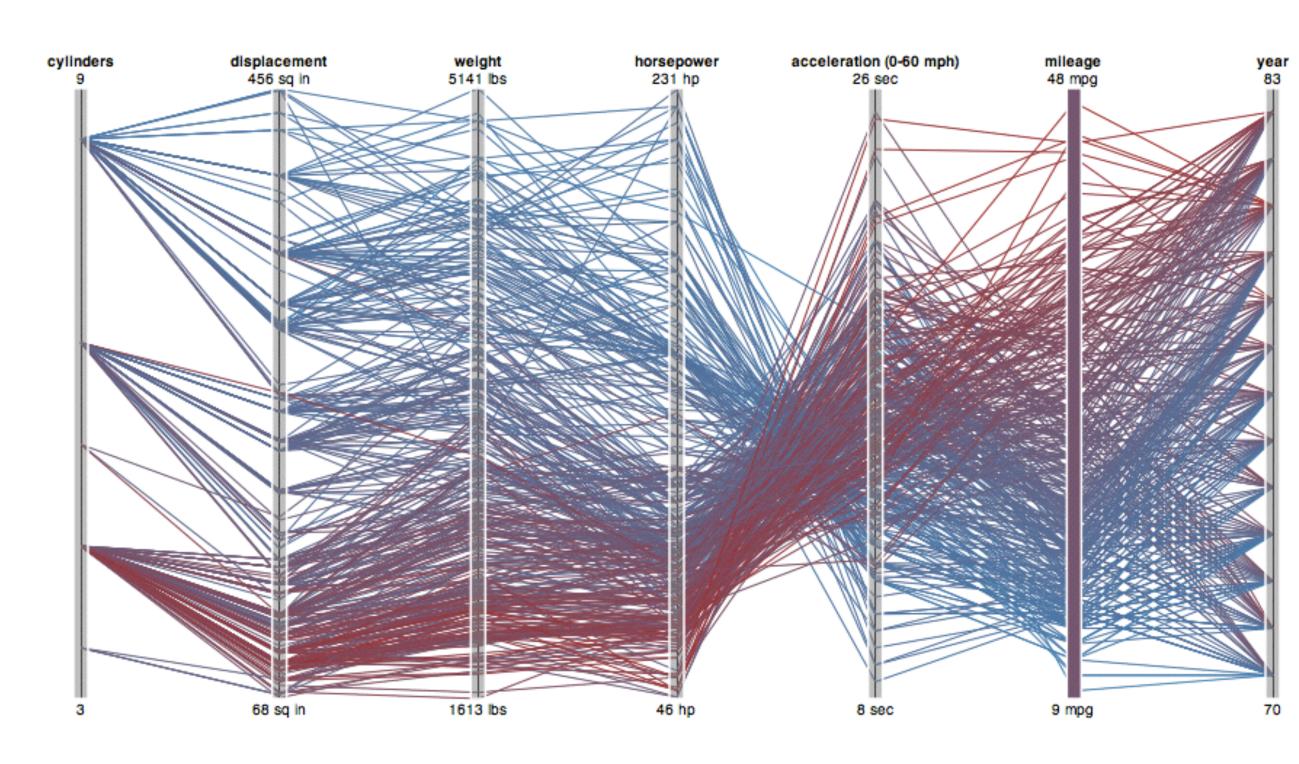


Figure 3. Parallel Coordinate Plot of Six-Dimensional Data Illustrating Correlations of $\rho=1,.8,.2,0,-.2,-.8$, and -1.

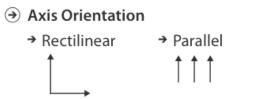
Parallel coordinates quiz: car data

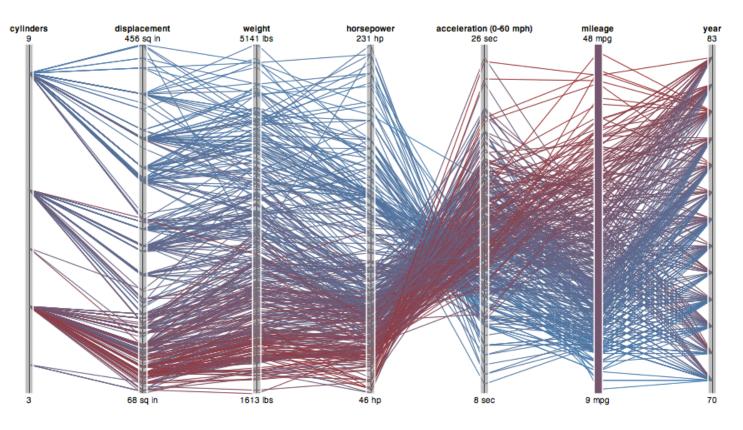
- What correlations do you see?
 - -positive?
 - -negative?
 - -none?
 - -not sure?
- horsepower to acceleration
- weight to mileage?



Parallel coordinates, limitations

- visible patterns only between neighboring axis pairs
- how to pick axis order?
 - -usual solution: reorderable axes, interactive exploration
 - -same weakness as many other techniques
 - downside of interaction: human-powered search
 - -some algorithms proposed, none fully solve





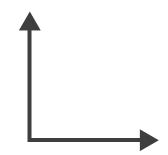
J

Orientation limitations

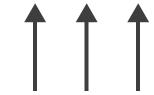
- rectilinear: scalability wrt #axes
 - 2 axes best
 - 3 problematic
 - 4+ impossible
- parallel: unfamiliarity, training time

Axis Orientation

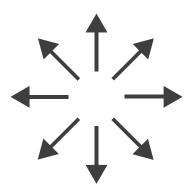
→ Rectilinear



→ Parallel



→ Radial

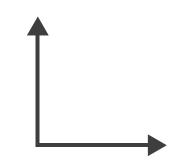


Radial orientation

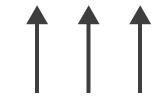
- perceptual limits
 - -polar coordinate asymmetry
 - angles lower precision than length
 - nonuniform sector width/size depending on radial distance
 - -frequently problematic
 - sometimes can be deliberately exploited!
 - for 2 attribs of very unequal importance



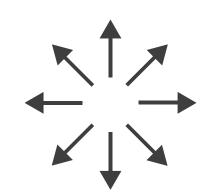
→ Rectilinear

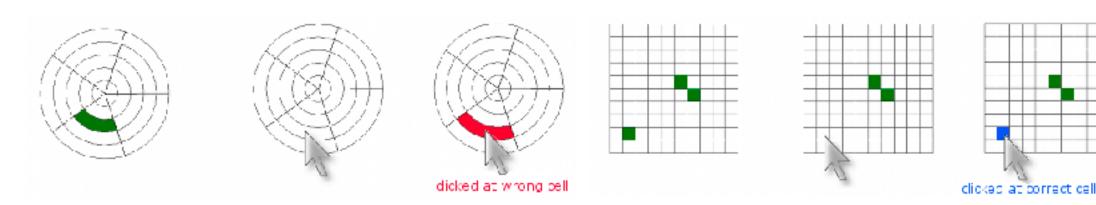


→ Parallel



→ Radial

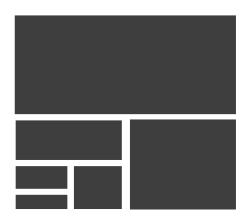




Layout density

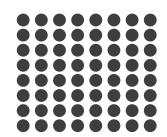
- Layout Density
 - → Dense

→ Space-Filling

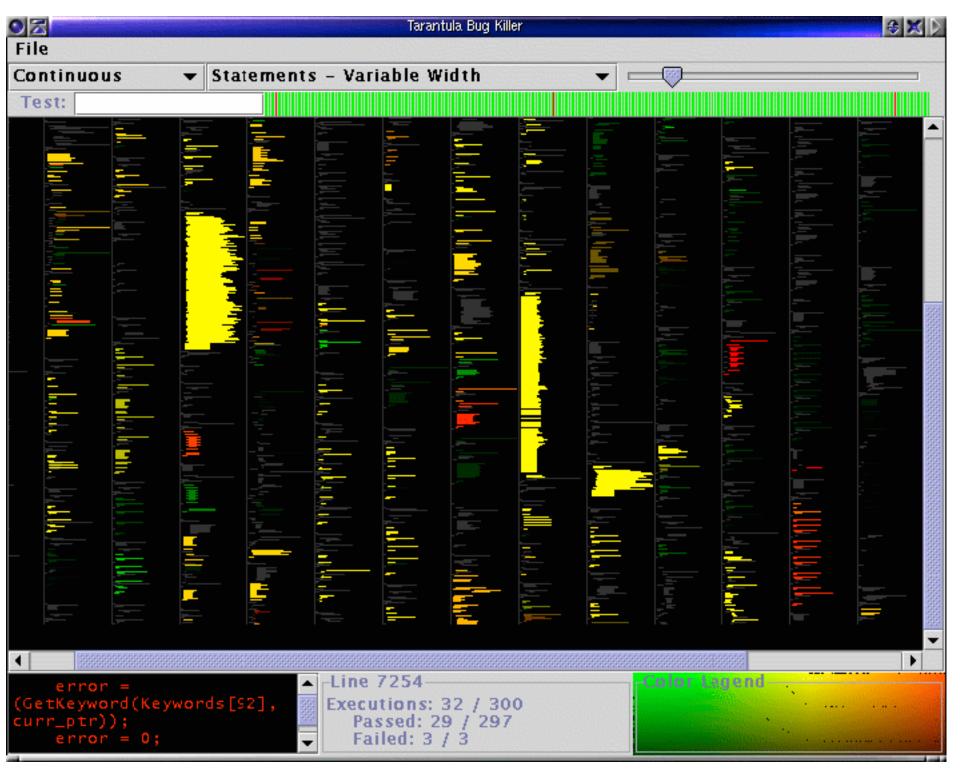


Idiom: Dense software overviews

- Layout Density
 - → Dense



- data: text
 - -text + I quant attrib per line
- derived data:
 - -one pixel high line
 - -length according to original
- color line by attrib
- scalability
 - I0K+ lines



[Visualization of test information to assist fault localization. Jones, Harrold, Stasko. Proc. ICSE 2002, p 467-477.]

Encode tables: Arrange space

Encode

Arrange

→ Express

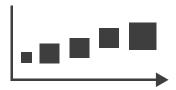
→ Separate





→ Order

→ Align





Arrange tables

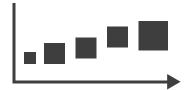
→ Express Values



- Separate, Order, Align Regions
 - → Separate



→ Order

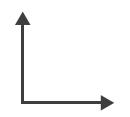


→ Align



Axis Orientation

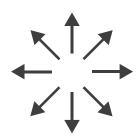
→ Rectilinear



→ Parallel



→ Radial



→ Layout Density

→ Dense



→ Space-Filling



- → 1 Key List
- → 2 Keys Matrix



→ 3 Keys Volume



→ Many Keys
Recursive Subdivision



How?

Encode

Santinia diaminenina monte in action

→ Arrange

→ Express

→ Separate





→ Order

→ Align





→ Use



How?

\bigcirc Map

from categorical and ordered attributes

→ Color



→ Size, Angle, Curvature, ...









→ Shape



→ Motion Direction, Rate, Frequency, ...



Manipulate

Facet

Reduce

→ Change







→ Filter



→ Select



→ Partition



Aggregate



→ Navigate



→ Superimpose



→ Embed

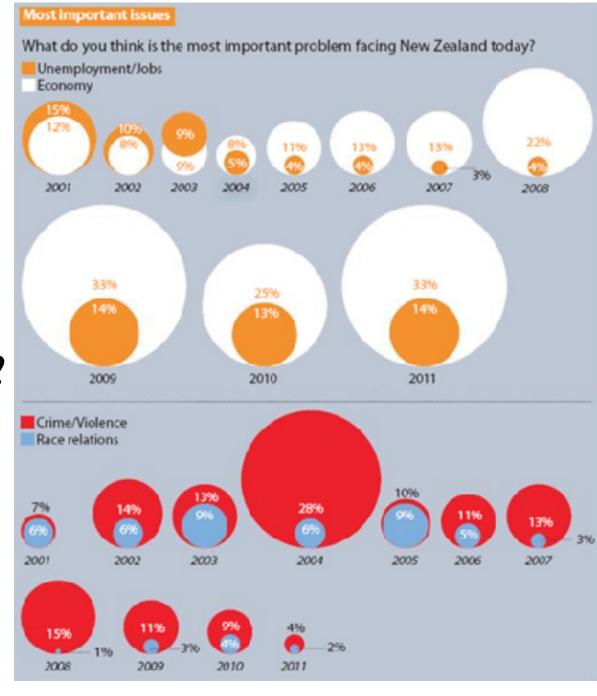


Upcoming

- D3 videos week 3
 - -Making a Bar Chart with D3 and SVG [30 min]
- Quiz 3, due by Fri Jan 24, 8am
- Programming Exercise 1, due Wed Jan 29
- Foundations 3, out Thu Jan 30
- D3 videos/readings week 4
 - -The General Update Pattern of D3.js [60 min]
 - -Interaction with Unidirectional Data Flow [16 min]
 - -Read: Reusable D3 Components

Design critique & redesign: NZ

- Consider the following questions:
 - I What could be the goals of the designer for questions that this visualization answers (domain-specific & abstract)?
 - -2 What data is represented in this visualization? Be specific.
 - -3 How is each data type visually encoded (marks/channels)?
 - -4 Can you read the data precisely? Is the visual encoding appropriately chosen?
 - Hint: how would this work without numeric labels?
- Develop two alternative designs to visualize this data.
 - -fine to discuss with your peers, but draw your own solution.
 - -mark your best design, briefly note why you think it's better.



Credits

- Visualization Analysis and Design (Ch 7)
- Alex Lex & Miriah Meyer, http://dataviscourse.net/
- Ben Jones, UW/Tableau