Week 3 - Dataprocessing questions

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1. How can D3 access and change the DOM? What do select and selectAll do?

D3 can access the DOM by using selectors such as select and selectAll to get to certain elements from the html page, such as a body or a div, and then use operators on those elements, for example .append() to add something onto the element.

For instance d3.select("body").append("svg") creates a new svg element on the page.

The function of selectAll is the same as select but just selects all elements of the type that is given in.

2. What are the d and i in function(d){} and function(d, i){}?

The d refers to the data input in your array and the i is used to iterate over the different elements of the array.

3. Write sample lines of JavaScript to add a div element with class "barChart1" and to add an svg element with class "barChart2" with square dimensions.

4. Describe append, update, enter, and exit at a high level. What does "selectAll + data + enter + append" refer to?

.append adds something on the element

.update updates an existing element

.enter is used to indicate that new elements will be added to the current selection.

.exit removes a given element from the selection.

When you use selectAll + data + enter + append it means that first make a selection, then specify the data you want to use for that selection. You enter that data for each element and then finally append it on the selected element.

5. What are the main differences between drawing a bar chart with HTML and SVG?

The syntax is different. Using d3 can be much faster because you can select multiple elements at once and make changes on them without writing a lot of code.

6. In drawing the simple bar chart with D3 and SVG, what elements were appended, and what parts of the graph did these elements correspond to?

Parts that were appended were:

- svg element in which you can draw and which is comparable to a canvas element in html, it corresponds with a given width and height
- axis X and Y which corresponds with the domain and range of your data
- rect / bar elements that draw the different bars for the bar chart and corresponds to the data set
- tooltip div element, so information can be shown when you hover your mouse over the chart. It corresponds with your data set