

Exploratory Data Analysis with R

Matthew Renze
DAMA Iowa Chapter

Motivation

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, ... because now we really do have essentially free and ubiquitous data. So the complimentary scarce factor is the ability to understand that data and extract value from it.

Hal Varian, Google's Chief Economist
The McKinsey Quarterly, Jan 2009

Motivation



The New York Times

For Today's Graduate, Just One Word: Statistics

By STEVE LOHR
Published: August 5, 2009

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif. — At Harvard, Carrie Grimes majored in anthropology and archaeology and ventured to places like Honduras, where she studied Mayan settlement patterns by mapping where artifacts were found. But she was drawn to what she calls “all the computer and math stuff” that was part of the job.

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(58)

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AVERAGE SALARY FOR High Paying Skills and Experience

SKILL	2013	YR/YR CHANGE
R	\$ 115,531	n/a
NoSQL	\$ 114,796	1.6%
MapReduce	\$ 114,396	n/a
PMBok	\$ 112,382	1.3%
Cassandra	\$ 112,382	n/a
OmniGraffle	\$ 111,039	0.3%
Pig	\$ 109,561	n/a
SOA (Service Oriented Architecture)	\$ 108,997	-0.5%
Hadoop	\$ 108,669	-5.6%
Mongo DB	\$ 107,825	-0.4%

Source: Dice 2014 Tech Salary Survey Results

How Does This Apply to Me?

- As a software developer, I often:
 - ☑ Perform log file analysis
 - ☑ Analyze software performance
 - ☑ Analyze code metrics for code quality
 - ☑ Detect anomalies in source data
 - ☑ Transform or clean data files to make them usable
 - ☑ Help decision makers make decisions based on data

A Flood of Data is Coming...



Sink

or



Swim

Overview

- Introduction to R
- Data Munging
- Descriptive Statistics
- Data Visualization
- Beyond R and EDA

About Me

- Independent software consultant
- Education
 - B.S. in Computer Science (ISU)
 - B.A. in Philosophy (ISU)
- Training
 - Kimball Group – Data Warehousing
 - ESRI - ArcGIS, ArcSDE, and ArcGIS Server
 - Data Science Specialization (Johns Hopkins) [In progress]

IOWA STATE
UNIVERSITY



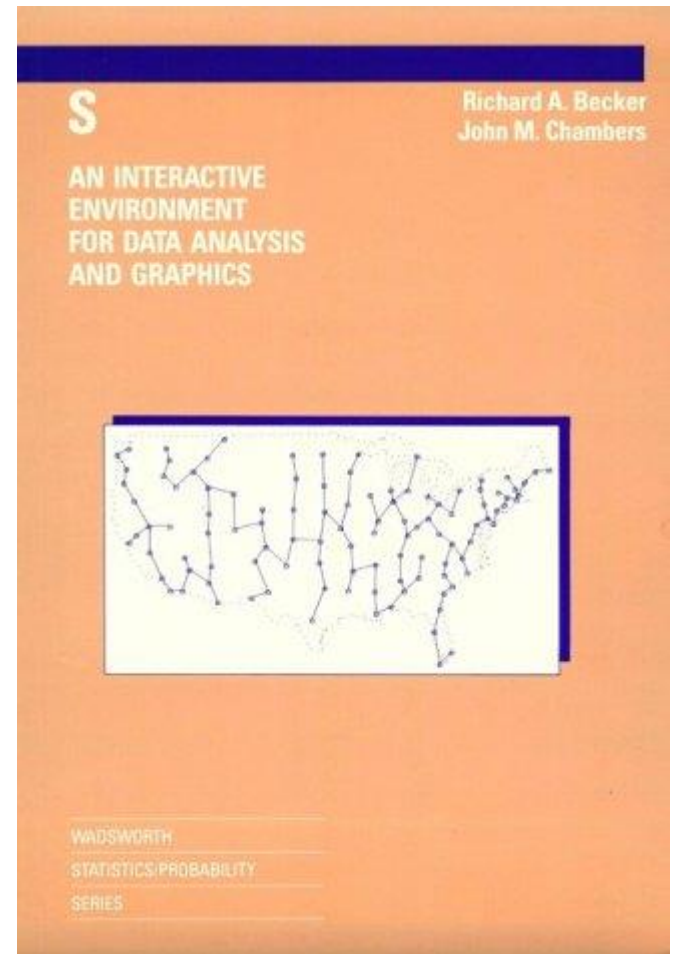
Introduction to R

What is R?

- R is an open source implementation of S

What is S?

- Statistical programming language
- Developed at Bell Labs in 1976
- Currently owned by TIBCO Software



A Brief History of R

- 1991 - R is developed by:
 - Ross Ihaka
 - Robert Gentleman
- 1995 - R became open source
- 2000 - R v.1.0 was released
- Today, R is at v.3.1.1



Source: <https://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~ihaka/downloads/the-r-project.pdf>



Source: www.aucklandlifestyle.com

What is R?

R is:

- an open source implementation of S
- a language and an environment
- provides methods for both statistical and graphical data analysis
- runs on Windows, Mac, and Unix systems



Source: www.r-project.org

What is R?

R is also:

- actively under development
- has a large user community
- is very modular and extensible
- has over 4000 extension packages

and best of all...

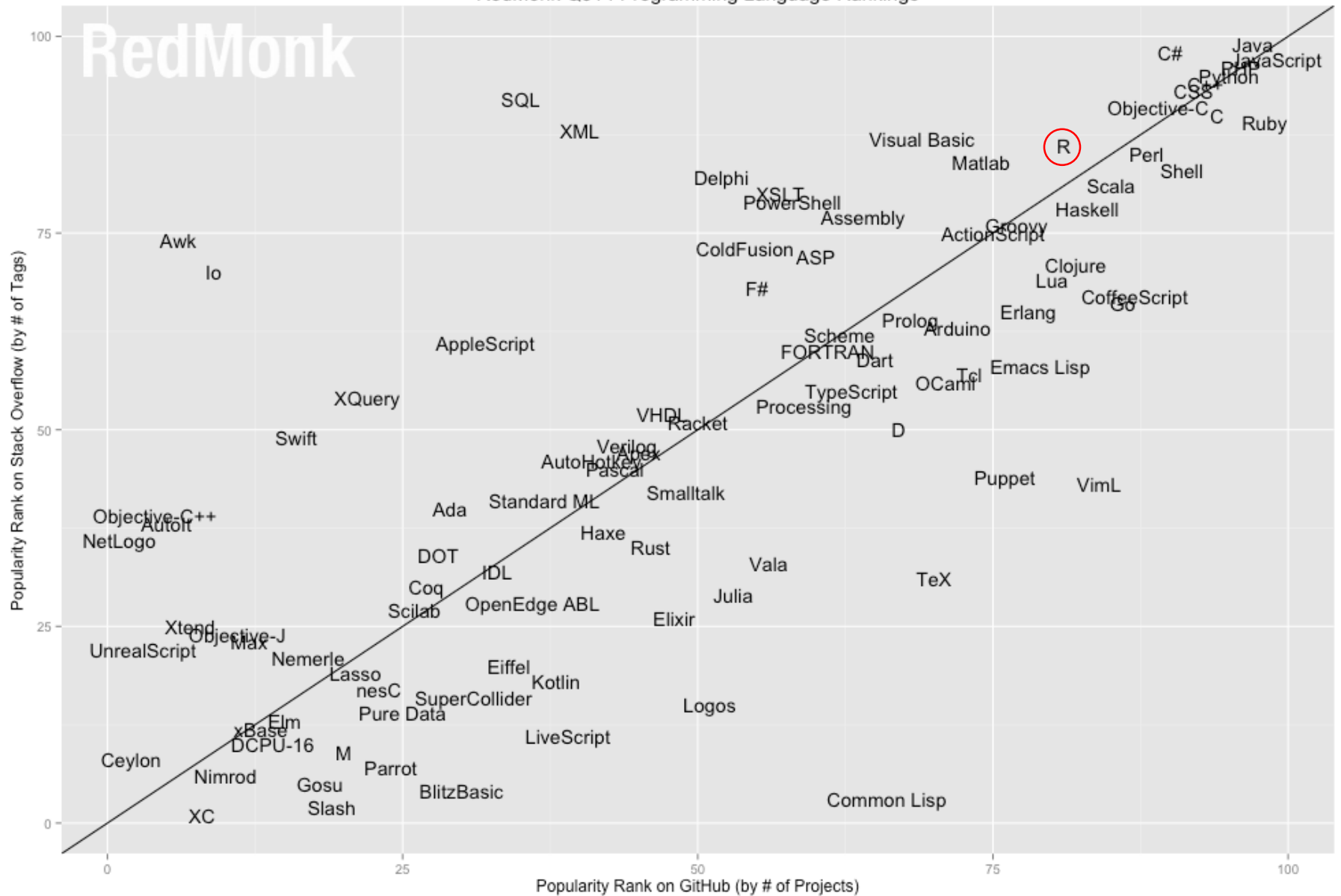


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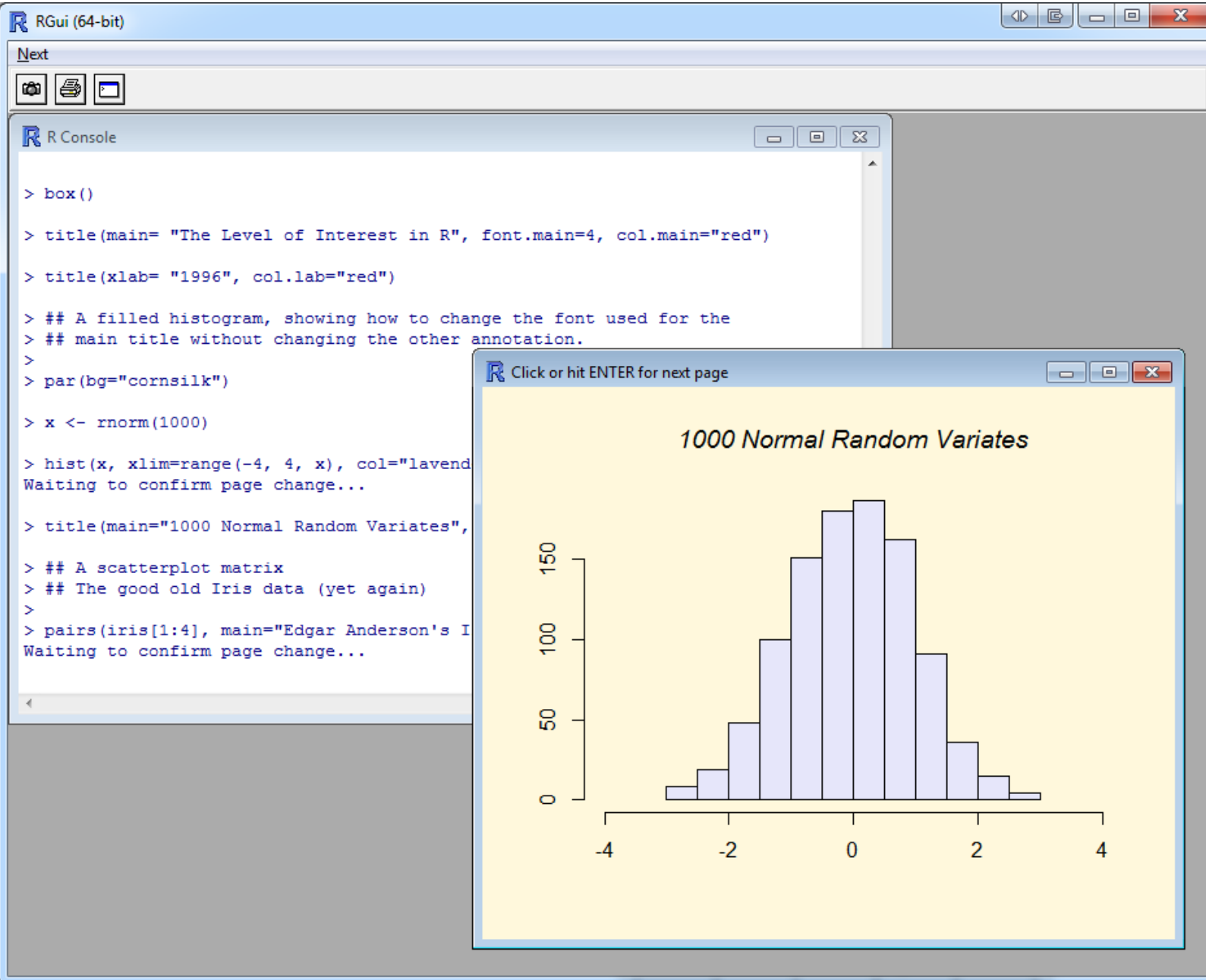
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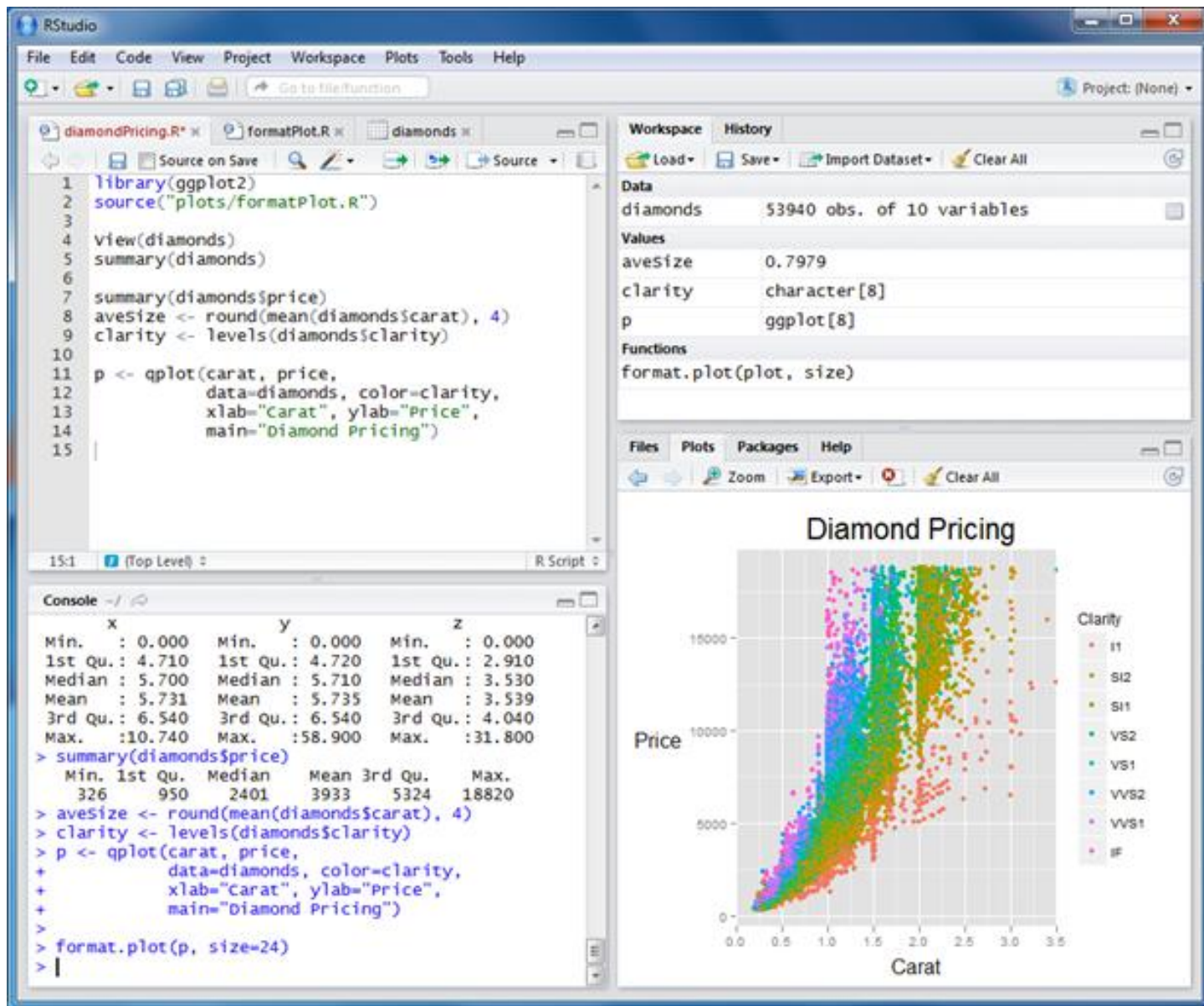


RedMonk Q314 Programming Language Rankings



Source: <http://redmonk.com/sograzy/2014/06/13/language-rankings-6-14/>





Source: www.rstudio.com/ide/

Code Demo

Data Munging

Data Munging

- Transforming data from a raw form to a usable form
- Many data sets are not initially ready for analysis
- Data must be transformed or cleaned first



Source: Wikimedia

Data Munging Tasks

- Renaming variables
- Data type conversion
- Encoding, decoding, or recoding data
- Merging data sets
- Transforming data
- Handling missing data (imputing)
- Handling anomalous values

Loading Data in R

- R supports a wide variety of data sources
 - File-based data
 - CSV, TAB, Excel, etc.
 - Web-based data
 - XML, HTML, JSON, etc.
 - Databases
 - JDBC, ODBC, SQL Server, Oracle, MySQL, Access, etc.
 - Statistical data
 - SAS, SPSS, Stata
 - And many more...

Cleaning Data

- This step is often the:
 - Most difficult
 - Most time consuming
- TIP: Record all steps using a script so you can reapply the steps whenever they are needed



Source: Wikimedia

Code Demo: Lending Club Dataset

- Sample of 2,500 peer-to-peer loans
- *Problem:* The data are not in a digestible format
- *Goal:* Prepare the data for analysis



Source: www.lendingclub.com

Code Demo

Descriptive Statistics

Descriptive Statistics

- Describe data in quantitative or qualitative ways
- Provides a summary of the shape of the data
- aka: Summary statistics

Interest Rate	
Statistic	Value
Minimum	5.42
1 st Quartile	10.16
Median	13.11
Mean	13.07
3 rd Quartile	15.80
Maximum	24.89
Variance	17.45
Standard Deviation	4.17

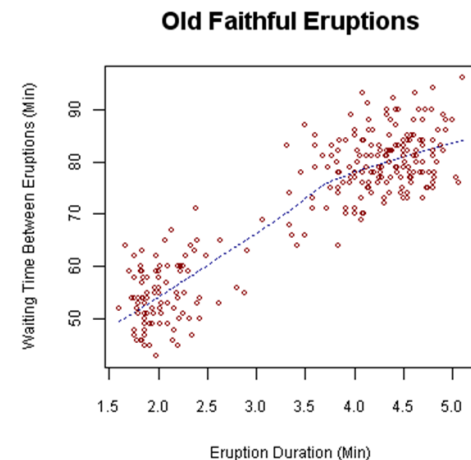
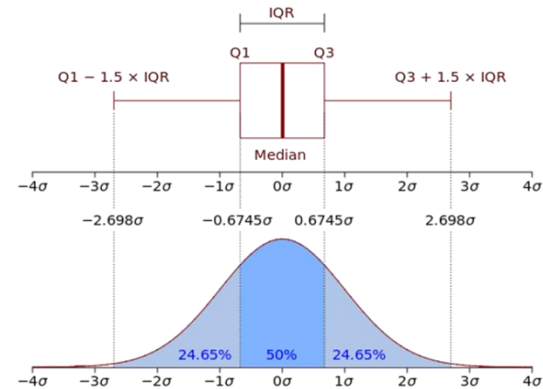
Statistical Terms

- Observations
 - Rows in the table
- Variables
 - Columns in the table
- Qualitative variable
 - Categorical values
- Quantitative variable
 - Numeric values

ID	Date	Customer	Product	Quantity
1	2012-10-27	John	Pizza	2
2	2012-10-27	John	Soda	2
3	2012-10-27	Jill	Salad	1
4	2012-10-27	Bob	Milk	1
5	2012-10-28	Sue	Soda	3
6	2012-10-28	Bob	Pizza	2
7	2012-10-28	Jill	Pizza	1
8	2012-10-28	Jill	Soda	3

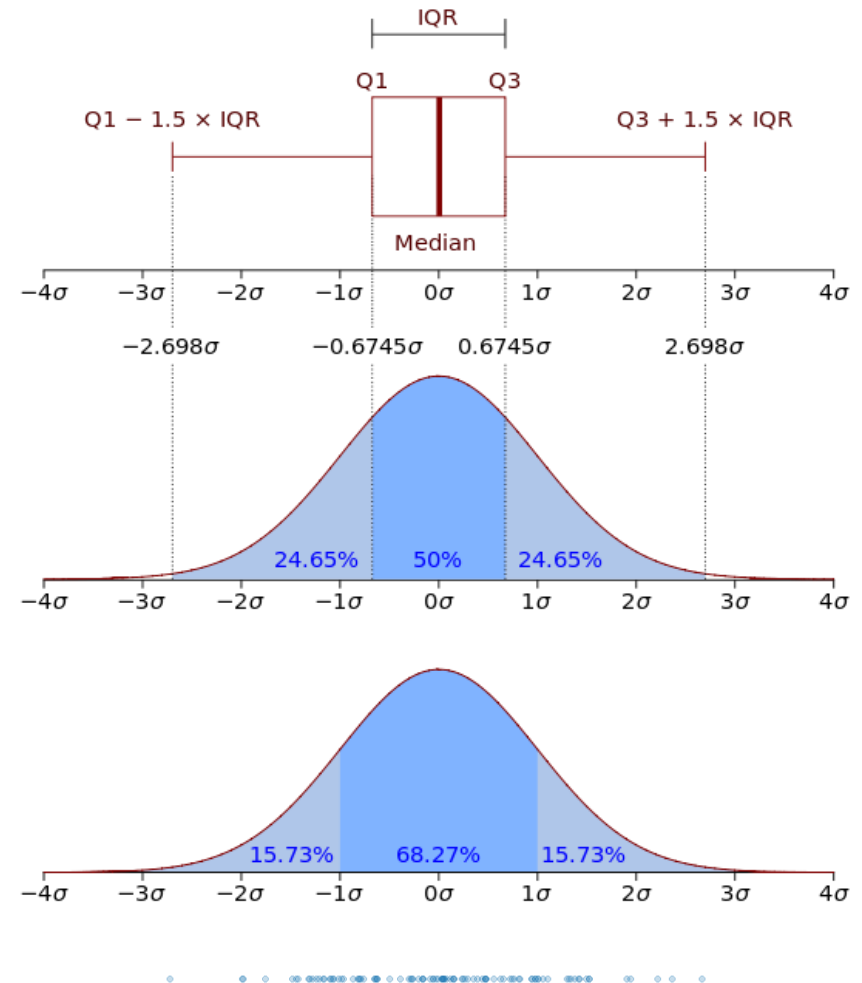
Types of Numerical Analysis

- Several types based on:
 - Type of variable(s)
 - Qualitative (Categorical)
 - Quantitative (Numerical)
 - Number of variables
 - Univariate (One)
 - Bivariate (Two)
 - Multivariate (Many)



Univariate Analysis

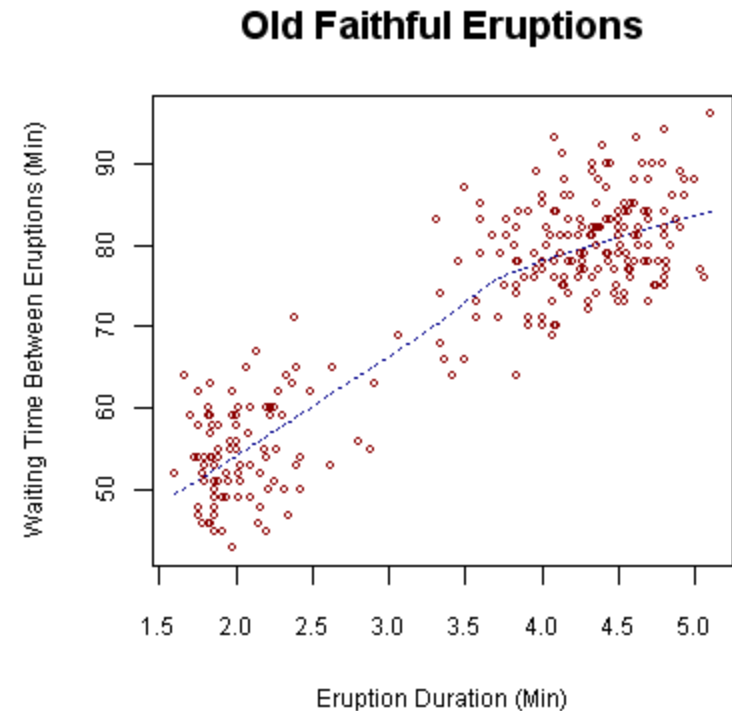
- Analysis of a single variable
- Measures include:
 - Central tendency
 - Mean
 - Median
 - Mode
 - Dispersion
 - Min
 - Max
 - Range
 - Quartiles
 - Variance
 - Standard deviation



Source: Wikipedia

Bivariate Analysis

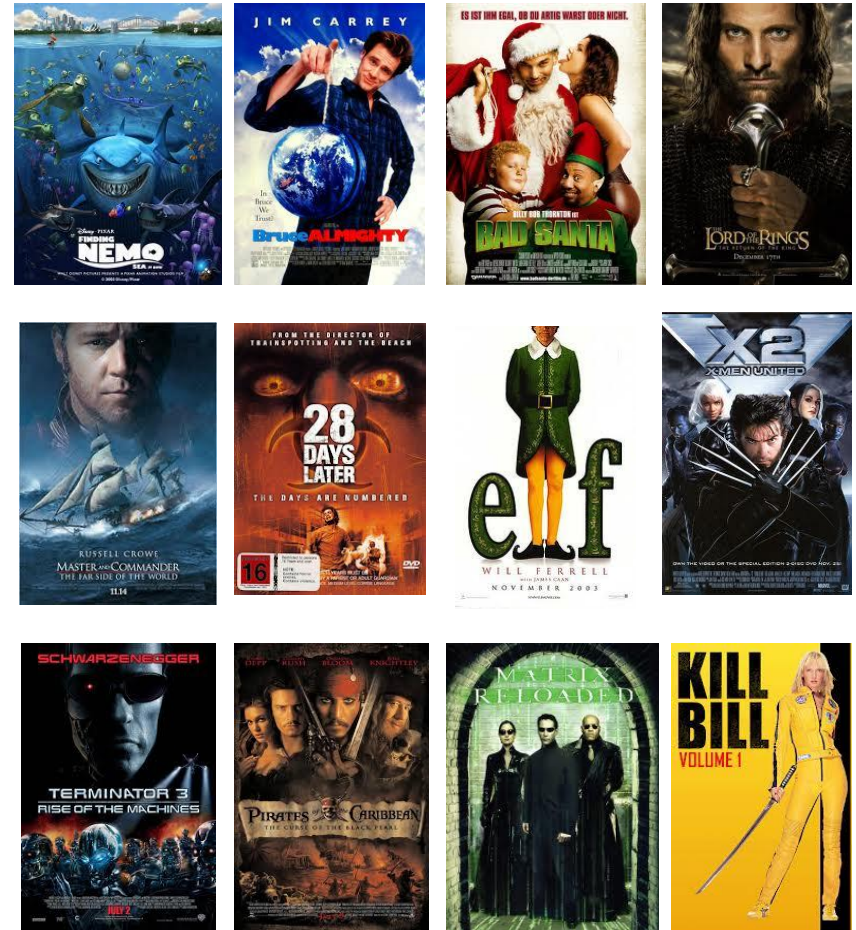
- Analysis of the relationship between two variables
 - Predictor
 - Outcome
- Measures include:
 - Covariance
 - Correlation



Source: Wikipedia

Code Demo: Movies Data Set

- Collection of movies from 2003
- Measurements include:
 - Movie Name
 - Rating (e.g., G, PG, R)
 - Genre (e.g., Action)
 - Running Length (min)
 - Critic Score (%)
 - Box Office Revenue (\$)
- *Goal:* Determine what types of movies made the most money



Source: <http://www.rossmanchance.com/iscam2/files.html>

Code Demo

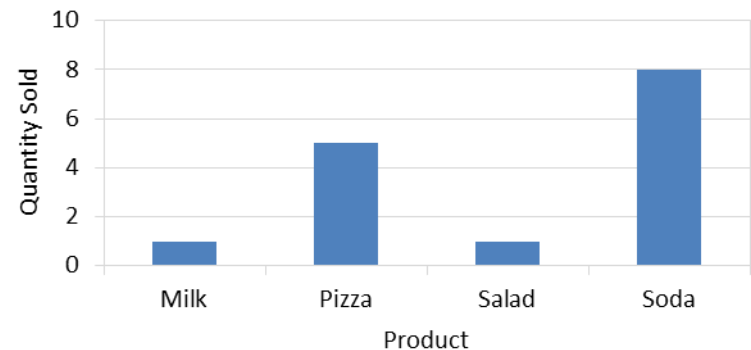
Data Visualization

Data Visualization

- Representation of data via visual means
- Human brain is exceptionally good at visual pattern recognition
- Map dimensions of data to visual characteristics:
 - Location
 - Size
 - Color
 - Shape

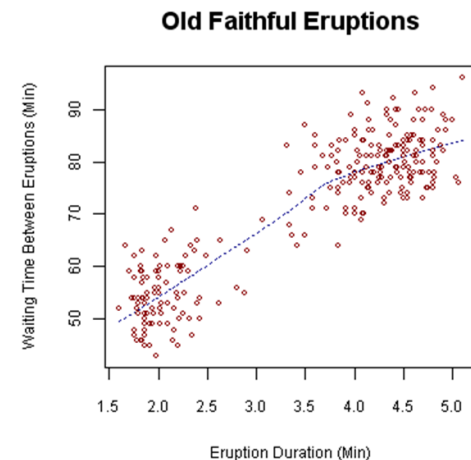
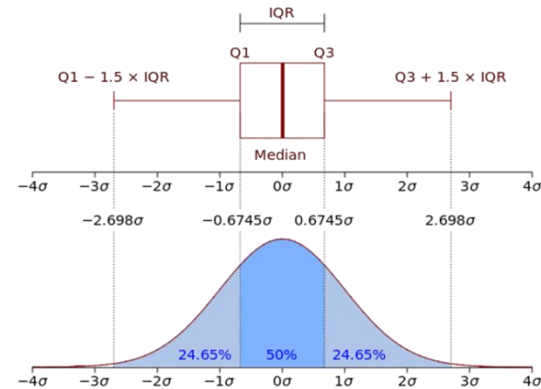
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Sales by Product



Types of Data Visualizations

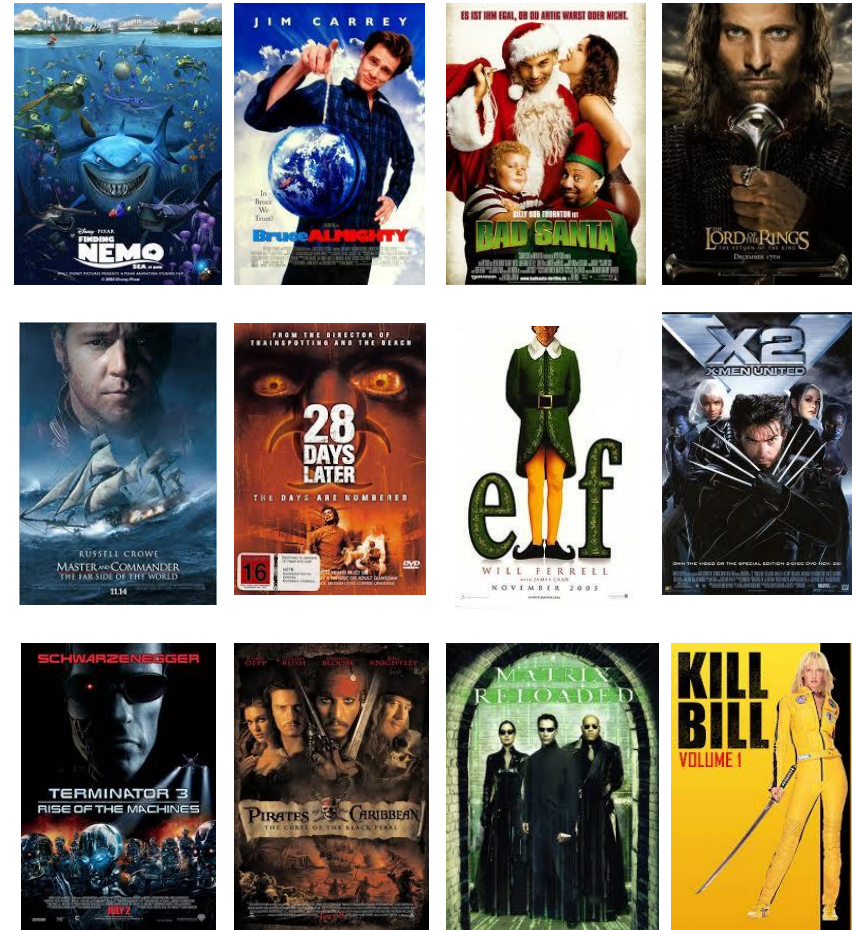
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Source: Wikipedia

Code Demo: Movies Data Set

- *Goal:* Visualize what types of movies make the most money

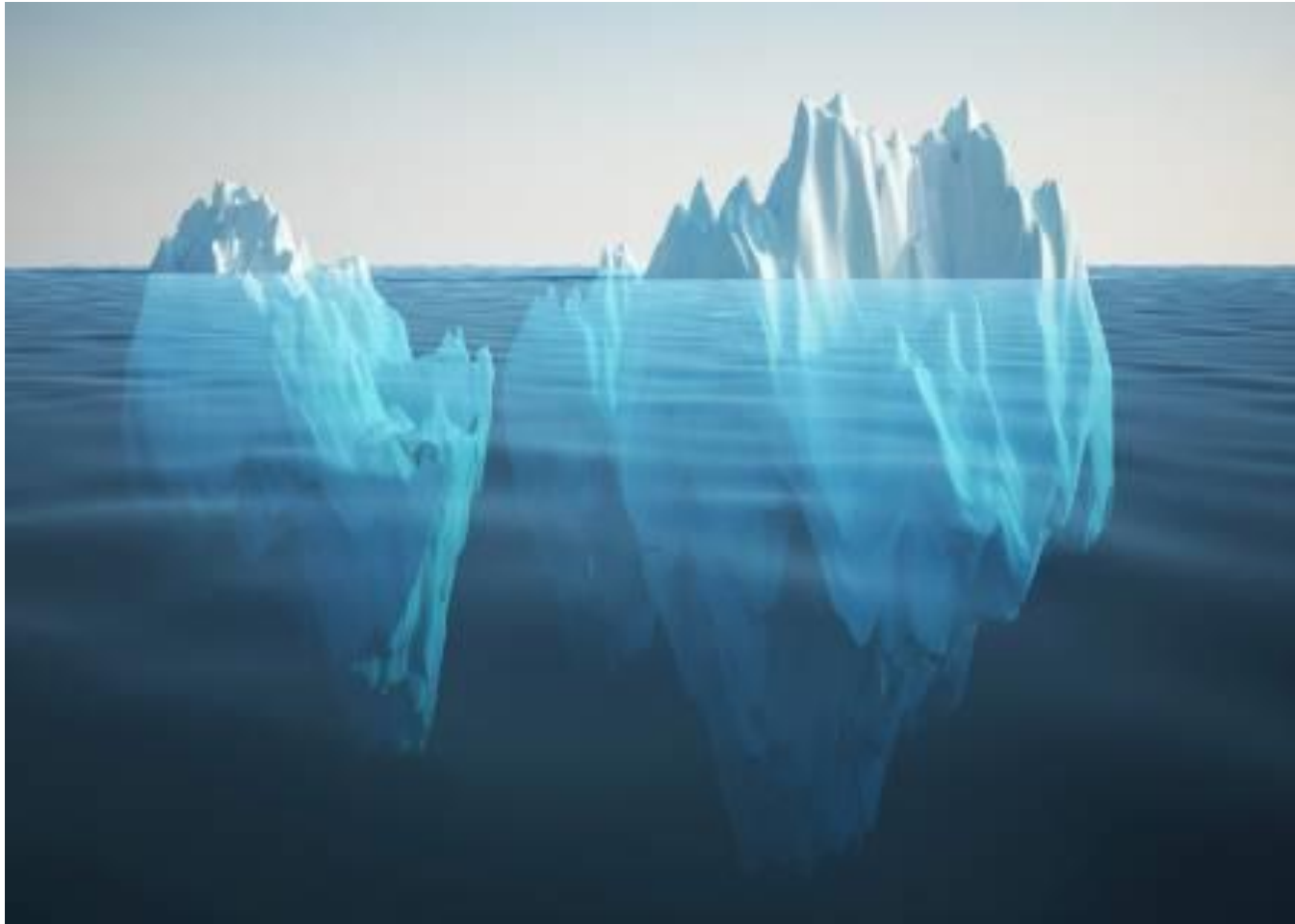


Source: <http://www.rossmanchance.com/iscam2/files.html>

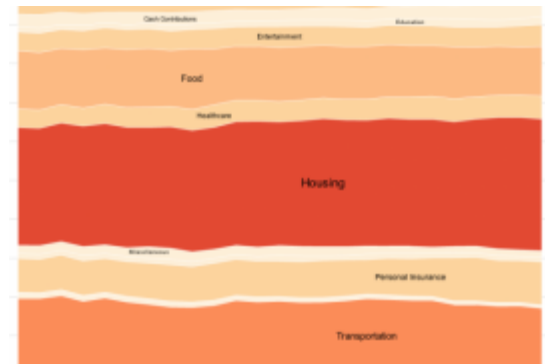
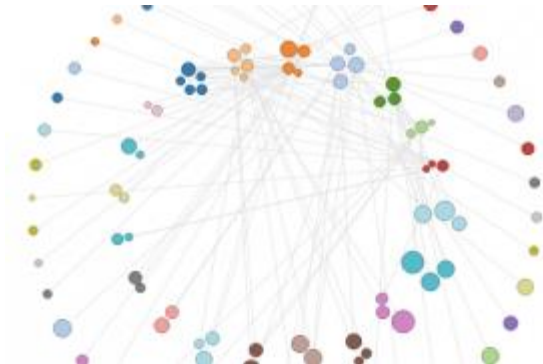
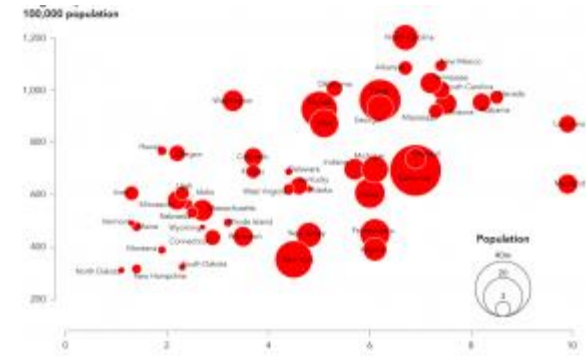
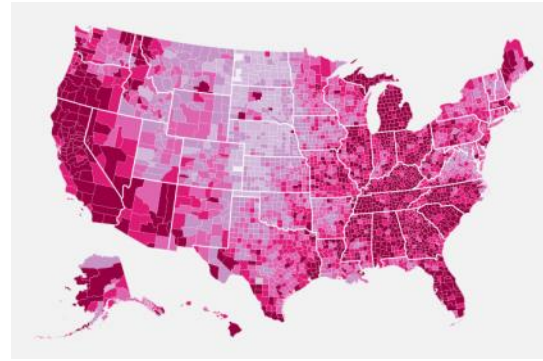
Code Demo

Beyond R and EDA

This is just the tip of the iceberg!



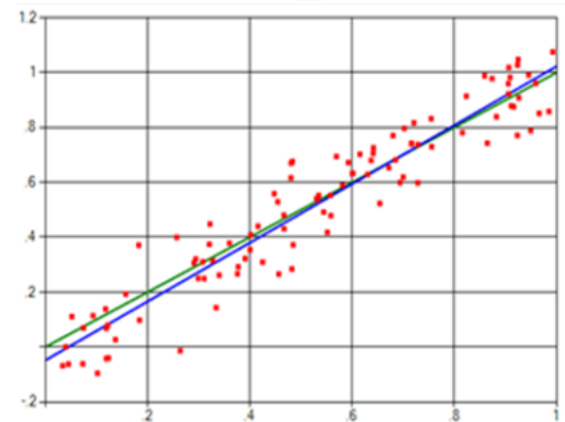
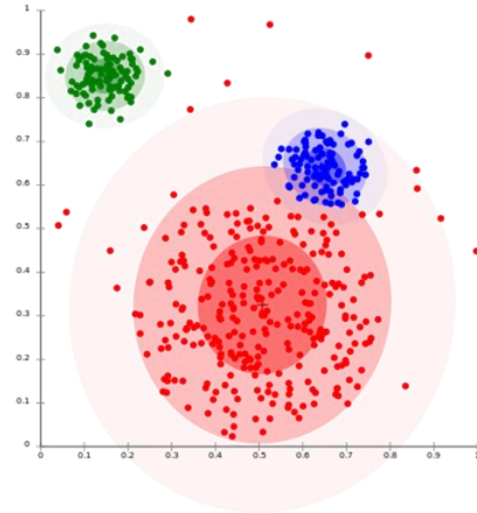
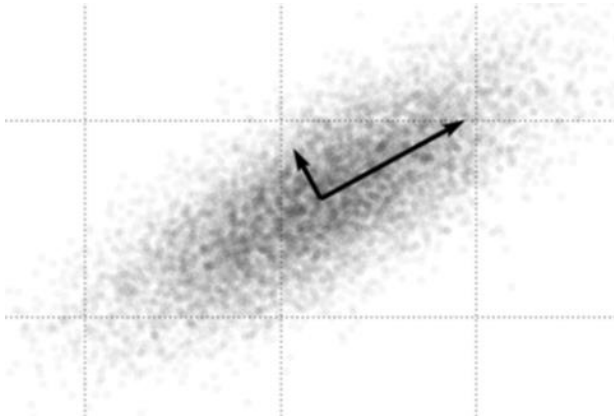
Advanced Visualizations with R



Source: Flowing Data

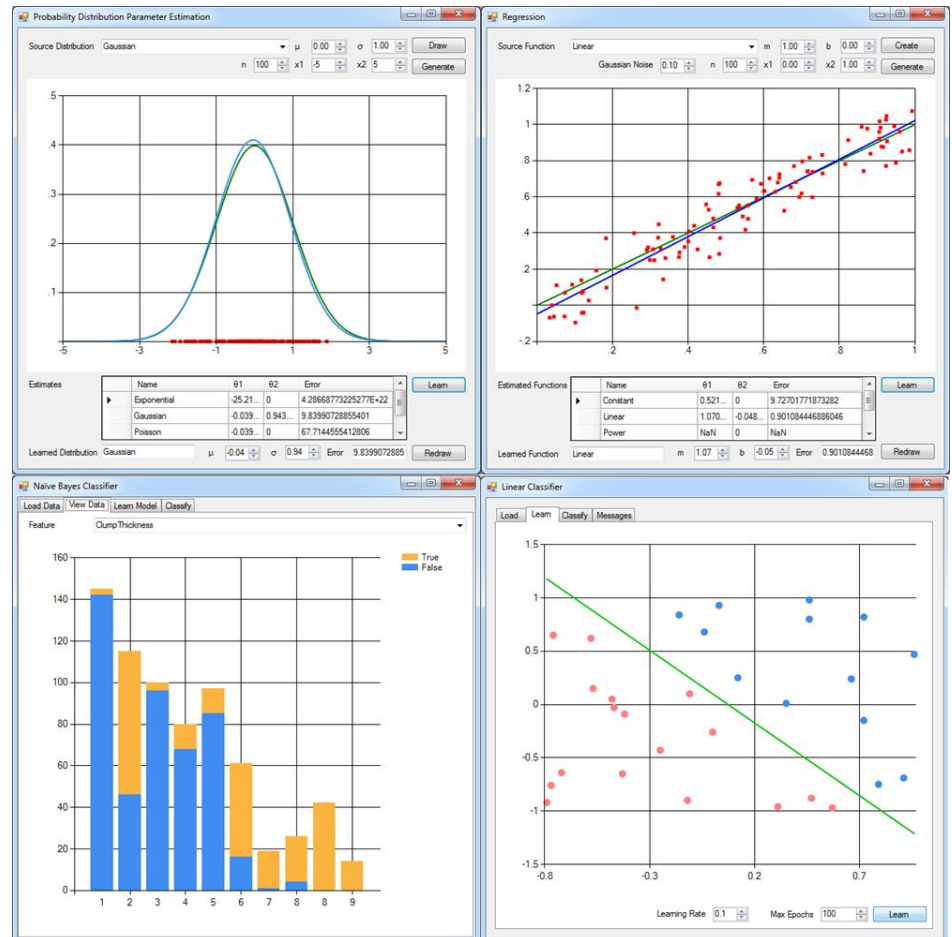
Advanced Data Analysis with R

- Cluster Analysis
- Statistical Modeling
- Dimensionality Reduction
- Analysis of Variance (ANOVA)



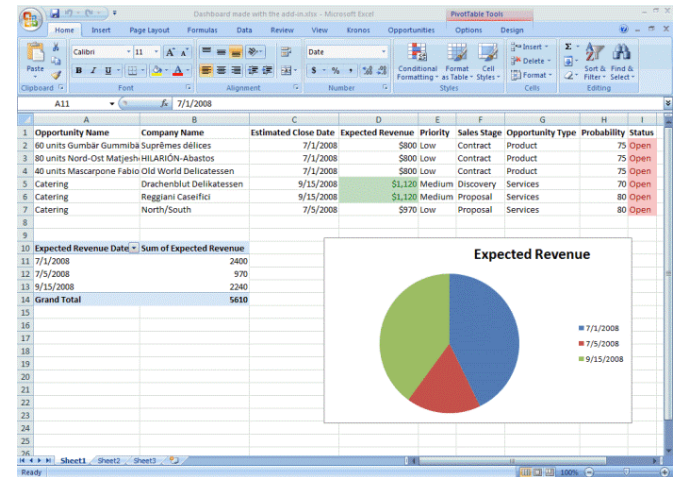
Data Mining and Machine Learning with R

- EDA uses human for pattern recognition
- Doesn't scale well for higher dimensional data
- Need to use machines for pattern recognition
 - Data Mining
 - Machine Learning

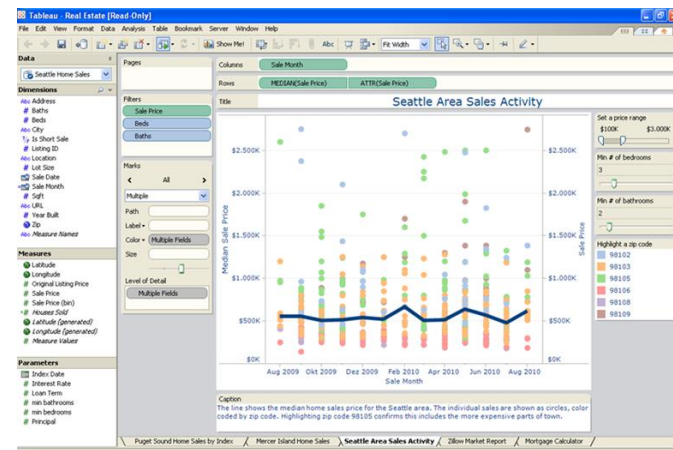


Alternatives to R for EDA

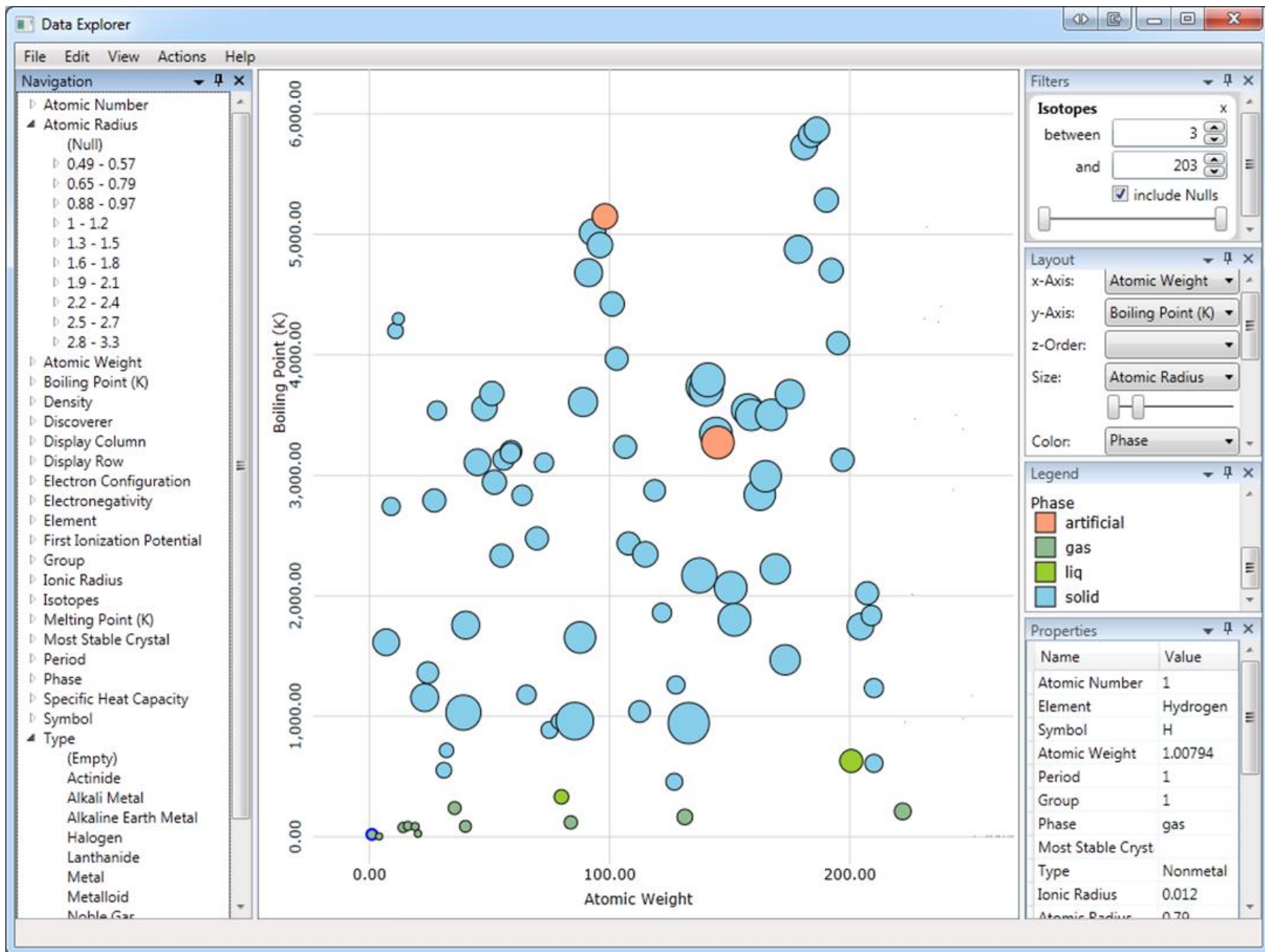
- Spreadsheets
- Interactive Data Visualization Tools
- Statistical Analysis Software
- Other Statistical Programming Languages
- General-Purpose Programming Languages



Source: Microsoft



Source: Tableau



Code Demo

Where to Go Next...

- R website: <http://www.cran.r-project.org>
- R Studio: <http://www.rstudio.com>
- Coursera: <https://www.coursera.org/>
- Revolutions: <http://blog.revolutionanalytics.com/>
- Flowing Data: <http://flowingdata.com>
- R-Blogger: <http://www.r-bloggers.com/>
- R Quick Reference Card:
<http://cran.r-project.org/doc/contrib/Short-refcard.pdf>

Conclusion

Conclusion

- R is a very popular language for data analysis
- EDA can provide rapid understanding of data
- R + EDA = Powerful insight into your data!

Feedback

- Feedback is very important to me
- Specific feedback I'm looking for:
 - One thing you liked about the presentation
 - One thing you think I could improve on

Contact Info

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Renze Consulting

www.renzeconsulting.com

Data Explorer

<http://www.data-explorer.com>