Eurovision 1998–2010
All the Eurovision entries from 1998 until 2012, including the results of the finals, via the Eurovision Song Contest.

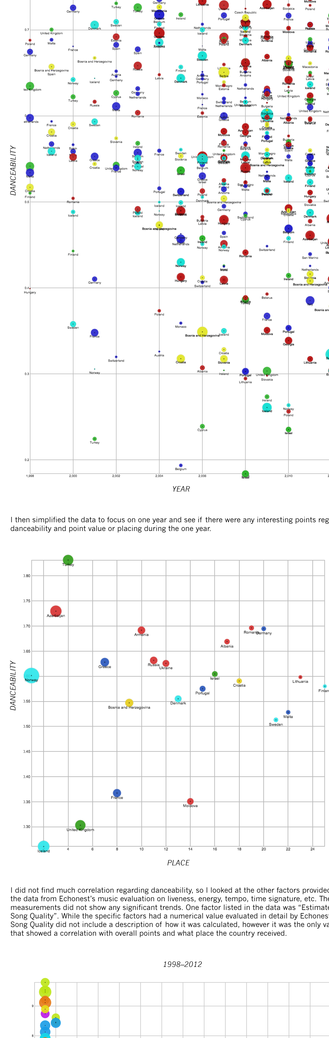
source:
https://public.tableau.com/s/resources?qt-overview_resources=1https://public.tableau.com/s/resources?qt-overview_resources=1

Tools: Raw Density Design, Numbers, Illustrator

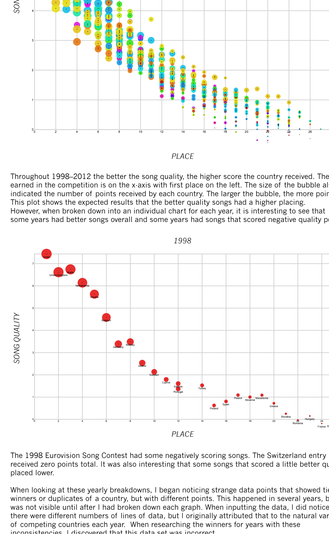
Questions:
Do the winners of Eurovision correlate with political events?
Do the smaller countries have a lower chance of winning?
How much more often do the larger countries win over the smaller countries?
Do more danceable songs win more points?

With the information included in this data set, the first question was not going to be answerable unless I divulged in a separate political timeline for all of Europe. Considering the data provided, I decided to try to answer the last question about danceability.

Initially, I tried to use the full data set spanning all 12 years compared to danceability, but it was very complicated and difficult to read. I color-coded by region to minimize colours as well as to see if there was a relationship between region and point value. The data seemed illegible and didn't show any trends.

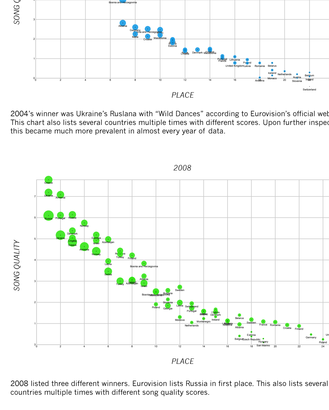


I then simplified the data to focus on one year and see if there were any interesting points regarding danceability and point value or placing during the one year.



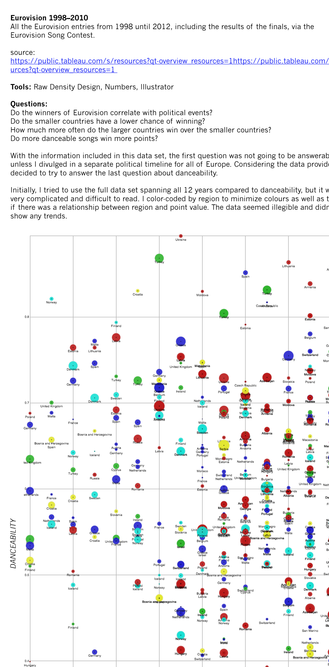
I did not find much correlation regarding danceability, so I looked at the other factors provided in the data from Echonest's music evaluation on liveness, energy, tempo, time signature, etc. These measurements did not show any significant trends. One factor listed in the data was "Estimated Song Quality". While the specific factors had a numerical value evaluated in detail by Echonest, Song Quality did not include a description of how it was calculated, however it was the only value that showed a correlation with overall points and what place the country received.

1998-2012



Throughout 1998–2012 the better the song quality, the higher score the country received. The place earned in the competition is on the x-axis with first place on the left. The size of the bubble also indicated the number of points received by each country. The larger the bubble, the more points. This plot shows the expected results that the better quality songs had a higher placing.
However, when broken down into an individual chart for each year, it is interesting to see that some years had better songs overall and some years had songs that scored negative quality points.

1998



The 1998 Eurovision Song Contest had some negatively scoring songs. The Switzerland entry received zero points total. It was also interesting that some songs that scored a little better quality placed lower.

When looking at these yearly breakdowns, I began noticing strange data points that showed tied winners or duplicates of a country, but with different points. This happened in several years, but it was not visible until after I had broken down each graph. When inputting the data, I did notice that there were different numbers of lines of data, but I originally attributed that to the natural variation of competing countries each year. When researching the winners for years with these inconsistencies, I discovered that this data set was incorrect.

2004

2004's winner was Ukraine's Ruslana with "Wild Dances" according to Eurovision's official website. This chart also lists several countries multiple times with different scores. Upon further inspection, this became much more prevalent in almost every year of data.

2008

2008 listed three different winners. Eurovision lists Russia in first place. This also lists several countries multiple times with different song quality scores.