

# 'DATA VISUALIZATION ASSIGNMENT-1

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Explain how human Perceptual Processing models and Gestalt Principles influence the effectiveness of data visualization. Discuss with suitable examples how visualization designers can minimize information overload and maximize information clarity using overload concepts such as Gibson's Affordance theory, data abstraction, and appropriate dataset representation.

### Introduction:

Data visualization is one of the most powerful tools in modern communication because it transforms raw data into meaningful, interpretable patterns. Its effectiveness depends on how well it aligns with human perception and cognition.

By applying perceptual principles like Gestalt Principle and concepts like Gibson's Affordance theory, data abstraction and proper dataset representation, designers can create clear, intuitive, and enhance understanding.

Human Perceptual Processing models in visualization  
Human perceptual models explain how people quickly interpret visual data by recognizing patterns, colors, shapes and contrasts faster than text.

\* pre-attentive processing: the brain instantly notices features like color, size, or orientation,

Example: a red bar in chart of blue bar draws immediately attention.

\* working memory limits:

Since, human can only process few chunks of information at once ( $7 \pm 2$  rule) visualization should summarize data.

Greatest Principles and Data Visualization.

Gesalt Psychology explains how human naturally perceive and grouping design because they help determine how users interpret graphs, charts or dashboards.

i) Proximity: Elements that are close together are perceived as ~~belonging~~ to the same group.

ii) Similarity:

Objects with similar shapes, color or sizes are seen as part of the same category.

iii) Continuity: The human eye prefers continuous lines and curves. Line chart are effective because viewers naturally follow trends along a smooth path.

iv) Closure:

Humans tend to fill in gaps to perceive a complete shape.



## Minimizing Information overload and Maximizing clarity

### 1) Gibson's Affordance theory

Gibson's Affordance theory suggests that objects have inherent properties that indicate their possible use. In visualization, this translates to intuitive design where we can interpret the chart.

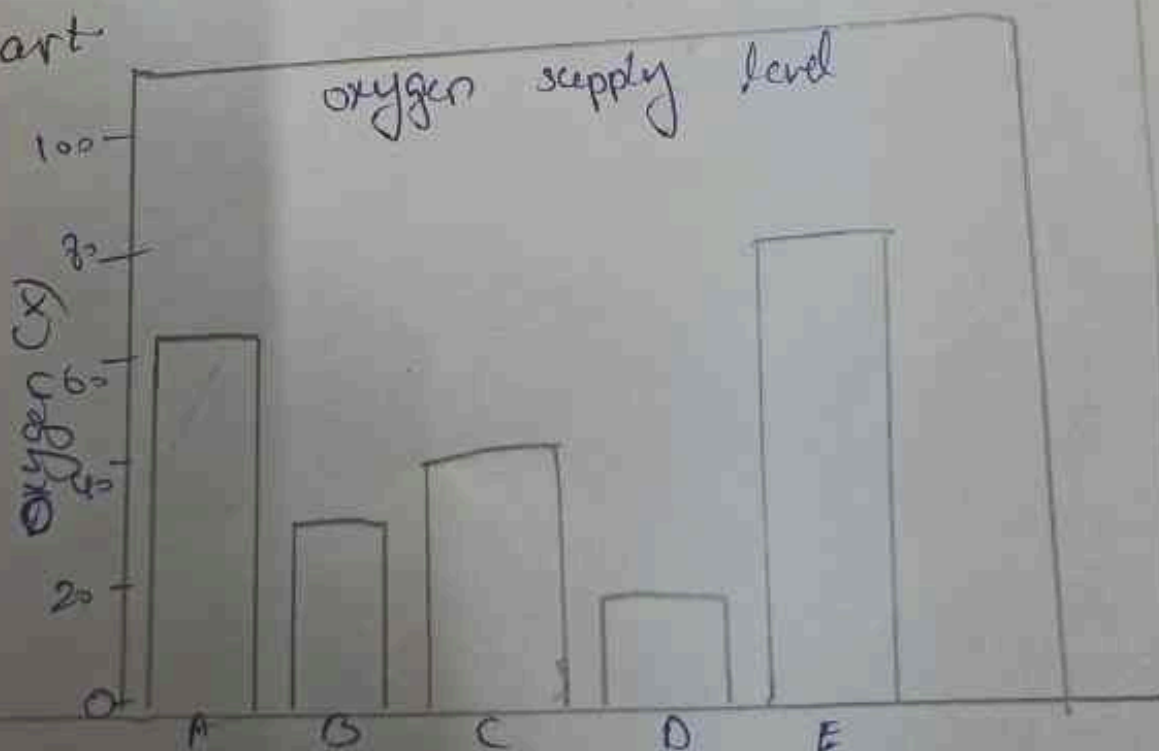
### 2) Data Abstraction:

Raw data is often too large and complex for direct visualization may confuse the audience, even if the data is accurate.

### Practical Example

In a hospital dashboard during a pandemic, using color to highlight low oxygen levels, grouping data by ward, adding interactive filters and make faster decision.

\* Bar chart



with the help of suitable datasets, compare and contrast different visualization techniques in univariate, Bivariate and Multivariate analysis.

### Introduction:-

Data analysis often categorized into univariate, Bivariate and multivariate analysis depending on the number of variables studied. It depends on:

1. Number of data: categorical vs Continuous
2. Number of variables: one, two or more than two
3. Objective of analysis: Distribution, Comparison

\* Univariate Analysis:

Univariate analysis involves analyzing a single variable at a time to understand its distribution, central tendency and spread.

Examples:

- 1) Indian census (male and female categorized by age group)
- 2) Monthly Expenditure.

\* Bivariate Analysis: Bivariate Analysis deals with the relationship between two variables. The aim is to identify correlation, trends or difference between them.



\* scatterplot with fit line: used for two Continuous variables

\* side by side box plots:

used one variable is categorical and the other is Continuous.

Example:

i) A scatterplot with a regression study shows lead to higher marks.

\* Multivariate analysis:

Multivariate analysis involves three or more variables simultaneously to uncover complex relationships.

i) Heatmap: used for showing correlation matrices

ii) Bubble sort: similar to a scatterplot but with a third variable represented by bubble sort

Conclusion: Therefore, univariate, bivariate, multivariate visualization serve different purposes in showing the relationship and complex interactions between data type and helps turn raw data into insights supporting better decisions.