

Data processing week 6

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

The `select` and `selectAll` methods make it possible to select specific elements in the document's DOM-structure. After that it is possible to add arbitrary data to those elements.

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

The `d` refers to the data associated with, for example, a certain `div` that is appended for each data element. The `i` refers to the index of that specific data element.

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.

```
d3.select("body").append("div").attr("class", "barChart1")
```

```
d3.select("body").append("svg").attr("class",  
"barChart1").attr("width", "100").attr("height", "100")
```

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

The `selectAll` method selects elements in the DOM, which most likely don't yet exist. The `data` method parses our data and makes sure everything past this point will be executed once for each value in the data set. `Enter` is used to enter the data-bound elements in the DOM. The `append` method finally creates the DOM elements which were referenced to with `enter`. If a (new) dataset is smaller than the amount of DOM elements to be created, the `exit` method can get rid of those surplus elements. If the dataset is larger, the surplus data will end up in `enter` which will create new DOM elements for those surplus data elements.

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

The main difference is that in SVGs images can be zoomed in to at nearly every level without losing quality, as opposed to HTML.