YData: An Introduction to Data Science

Lecture 07: Charts

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Credit: data8.org



Announcements

Census Review

The Decennial Census

- Every ten years, the Census Bureau counts how many people there are in the U.S.
- In between censuses, the Bureau estimates how many people there are each year.
- Article 1, Section 2 of the Constitution:
 - "Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States ... according to their respective Numbers ..."

Census Table Description

- Values have column-dependent interpretations
 - The SEX column: 1 is Male, 2 is Female
 - The POPESTIMATE2010 column: 7/1/2010 estimate
- In this table, some rows are sums of other rows
 - The SEX column: 0 is Total (of Male + Female)
 - The AGE column: 999 is Total of all ages
- Numeric codes are often used for storage efficiency
- Values in a column have the same type, but are not necessarily comparable (AGE 12 vs AGE 999)

https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/datasets/2010-2015/national/asrh/nc-est2015-agesex-res.csv

(DEMO)

Growth Rate

- Growth rate = g (for example 3%, or 0.03)
- Initial value x, final value y after t periods of time

Value after 1 period
$$= x + xg$$
 $= x * (1+g)$
Value after 2 periods $= x(1+g)(1+g)$ $= x * (1+g) ** 2$
Value after t periods $= y$ $= x * (1+g) ** t$

So
$$(1+g) ** t = y/x$$
 and so $1+g = (y/x) ** (1/t)$

So
$$g = (y/x) ** (1/t) - 1$$

Data Visualization

Types of Data

All values in a column should be both the same type and be comparable to each other in some way

- Numerical Each value is from a numerical scale
 - Numerical measurements are ordered
 - Differences are meaningful
- Categorical Each value is from a fixed inventory
 - May or may not have an ordering
 - Categories are the same or different

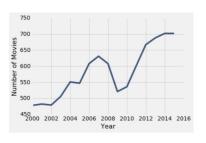
"Numerical" Data

Just because the values are numbers, doesn't mean the variable is numerical

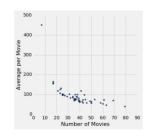
- Census example had numerical SEX code (0, 1, and 2)
- It doesn't make sense to perform arithmetic on these "numbers", e.g. 1 0 or (0+1+2)/3 are meaningless
- The variable SEX is still categorical, even though numbers were used for the categories

Plotting Two Numerical Variables

Line graph: plot



Scatter plot: scatter



(DEMO)