

When plotting geographical data like this, it might be nice to include coastlines, national or state borders, etc. Can you find a Matlab function online that will plot coastlines and/or borders?

6 Univariate data

6.1 Univariate visualisation

Let's finally get down to looking at a variety of approaches to univariate plotting. Some you will have already seen in lectures, while others are nicely described at following blog site by Gramener (a data visualisation company):

<http://blog.gramener.com/54/charting-one-dimensional-data-linearly>.

Load Matlab's inbuilt *flu* dataset (by typing *load flu*) then produce the following plots. Think about some of the pros and cons of each and how it might be useful to describe some of the data for your project.

1. Using the *hist* function, show one of the flu data regions. Use *help hist* in the command window to see usage information for the *hist* function.
2. Draw a quantile plot for one of the flu data regions.
3. Draw a Q-Q plot using the *MidAtl* and *SAAtl* flu data. Make sure to include a 45° reference line and set the axis limits and plot title appropriately. You will need to use the *hold* function.
4. Using the quantiles calculated for the Q-Q plot above, draw a Tukey Mean-Difference plot. Again, be sure to include a reference line (this time horizontal) and set the axis limits and plot title appropriately.
5. Use the *HeatMap* function to draw a heat-maps for some of the flu data regions. Some heat maps are really boring, for example, the mid-Atlantic region (*MidAtl*). Can you explain why? Look at the heat maps for the *Mtn* or *ESCentral* regions for comparison.
6. Draw vertical and horizontal bar charts in the same figure for one of the flu data regions. You will need to use the *subplot* function.
7. Draw *stairstep* and *stem* plots of the same data using the *stairs* and *stem* functions.
8. Draw *sparklines* for all the regions in the flu dataset in the same figure. Again, you will need to use the *subplot* function. You should also use a *for* loop to avoid code duplication. See above for an example of using a *for* loop to draw multiple plots and some advantages of dealing with dataset objects like *flu* over simple matrices. Make sure the axes for each *sparkline* are hidden.
9. Draw *streamgraphs* in a similar same way to how you drew the *sparklines*. Remember to halve the input data and plot both the halved values and their inverses.
10. Use both the *plot* and *scatter* functions to draw *jitter* plots of one of the flu data regions.
11. Use the *boxplot* function to draw box plots for all the regions in the flu data. If you read the help documentation for *boxplot* you should notice that you won't need to use *subplot*. Make sure the box plots are oriented horizontally. As a slight challenge, make the *NE* data appear at the top, with the other regions in order below.