

# Data Visualization

## Workshop

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HST.953 Collaborative Data Science in Medicine  
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# Agenda

- Quick introduction
- Tutorial 1: Data Visualization with R and ggplot2
  - Powerful visualization tool in R
- Tutorial 2: Visualization for clinical applications
  - Applied visualization with simple R commands

# Why Visualization?

- A method of encoding quantitative, relational, or spatial information into images
- Taps into the visual system – an enormously powerful pattern-finding device – which can reveal structure in data in a compelling and accessible way

David Sasson

# Goal of Visualization

- The greatest value of a picture is when it forces us to notice what we never expected to see.

John Tukey (1977)

- The purpose of visualization is insight, not pictures.

Ben Shneiderman (1999)

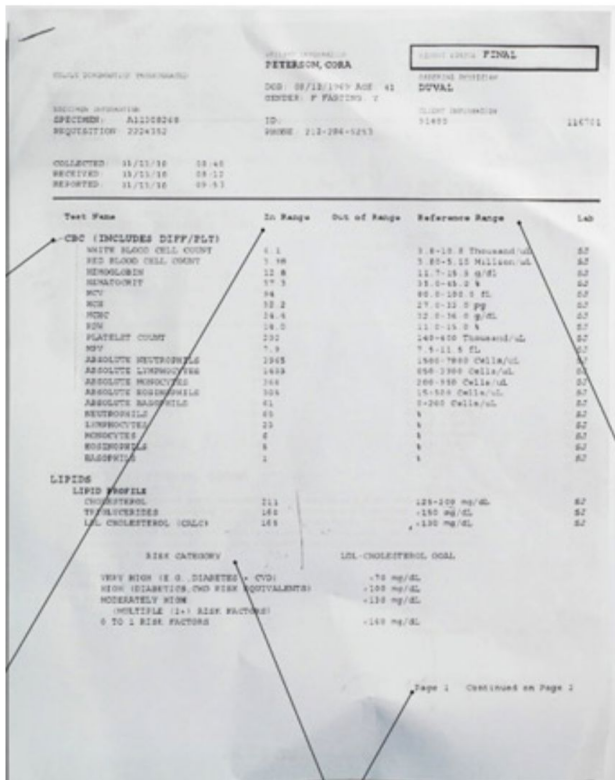
- Understanding and exploring trends and patterns inside data
- Summarizing statistics
  - Instead of reading thousands raw data points
- Telling a story!

# Medical Data?

Why challenging (for analysis as well as visualization)?

- Volume
- Missing data
- Trusting source of data/resolving conflicting data
- Time series
- Change/acceleration vs. absolute (whether in spending or in disease progression)
- Bias

# Do This



## Your Test Results

PATIENT: Cora Peterson

GENDER: Female  
AGE: 41  
DOB: August 12, 1969  
ORDERED BY: Dr. Pico D.

COLLECTED: November 13,  
2010, 8:40 a.m.  
RECEIVED: November 13,  
2010, 8:12 p.m.

## RESULTS:

### Comprehensive Metabolic Panel

Glucose (fasting): 125 mg/dL



### Vitamin D

Total vitamin D: 22 ng/ml

Complete Blood Cell Count (CBC) Normal

**Complete blood cell count (CBC)** (normal for all 20 values, including white blood cell count (a high count can indicate infection)).

### Urinalysis

Normal for all 20 values, including color, appearance, and protein.

## Endocrinolog

function, and for microalbumin and creatinine, measures of kidney function,

## Chemistry Now

levels could indicate anemia, hepatitis, or other problems.)

## WHAT DO YOUR RESULTS MEAN?

**ELEVATED GLUCOSE:** The relatively high amount of sugar in your blood is typical of a patient with prediabetes, which can double your risk for heart disease, depending on other risk factors. See [diabetes.org](http://diabetes.org) for more information.

**ELEVATED CHOLESTEROL:** Your relatively high cholesterol (a waxy substance produced in the liver) may also increase your risk of heart disease, depending on other risk factors. See [heart.org](http://heart.org) for more information.

**LOWER LEVELS OF VITAMIN D:** Your results suggest insufficient vitamin D, which promotes bone density and immune-system function. Women who fit your profile can become deficient within five months if no action is taken. Vitamin D deficiency may increase your risk for osteoporosis, high blood pressure, and certain cancers.

**Your results at a glance:**

YOUR GLUCOSE LEVELS ARE TOO HIGH  
WHICH INDICATES PREDIABETES.

YOUR VITAMIN D LEVEL IS TOO LOW.

**YOUR CHOLESTEROL LEVELS ARE BORDERLINE HIGH.**

YOUR KIDNEY, LIVER, AND THYROID FUNCTION ARE ALL NORMAL.

Questions?

Contact the physician who ordered this test for further interpretation of the results:

DR. PICO DUVA  
(212) 555-5253

### Lipid Profile

Total cholesterol: 211 mg/dL



HDL ("good" cholesterol): 46 mg/dL



LDL ("bad" cholesterol): 165 mg/dL



Triglycerides: 160 mg/dL



## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

**CONSIDER YOUR LIFESTYLE.** If you are inactive, overweight, and/or a smoker, your risk for diabetes and heart disease rises. Exercising regularly (30 minutes/day) and reducing your weight by 5 to 10 percent lowers your risk of diabetes by 58 percent.

**ADDRESS OTHER RISK FACTORS FOR DIABETES AND HEART DISEASE.** Dietary changes, like reducing alcohol consumption and increasing fruit and vegetable intake, can decrease your cholesterol and triglyceride levels.

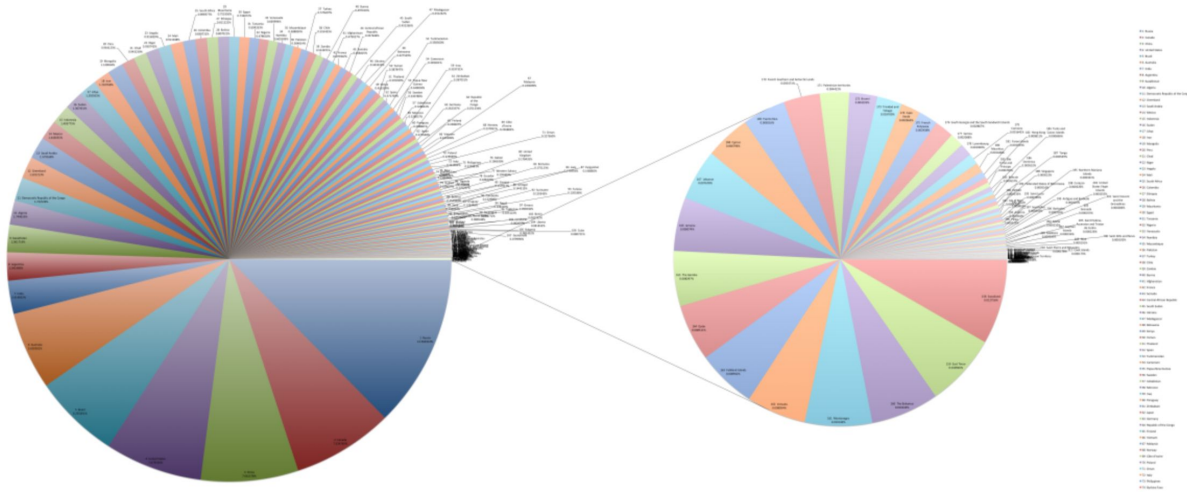
**ASK YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT REDUCING YOUR HEART DISEASE RISK.** Medications like statins can lower cholesterol and delay the onset of heart disease. Calculate your risk at <http://2010.nhlbi.nih.net/atpui/calculator.asp>.

**CONSIDER LIFESTYLE CHANGES TO CORRECT VITAMIN D INSUFFICIENCY.** These include diet, vitamin D supplements, and more exposure to sunlight.

# Don't Do This!

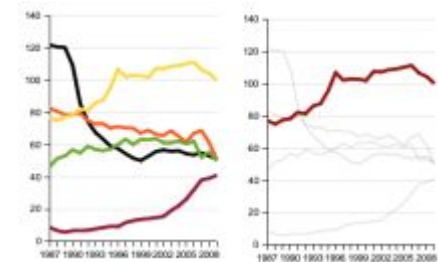
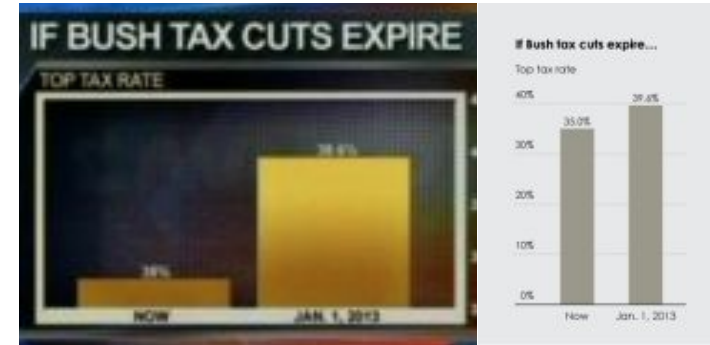
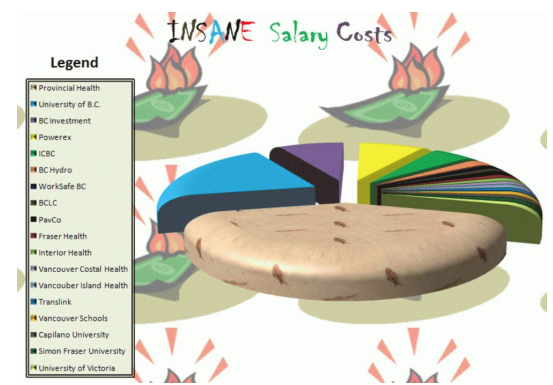
<http://viz.wtf>

<http://eagerpies.com/close-the-bars-down/>



# Some Principles

- Lets the data speak for itself
- The addition of extra fluff (shadows, 3D, extravagant colors) eclipses what the graph is actually showing
- Faithful to the data, and doesn't misrepresent it by modifying axes or colors the wrong way
- Data visualization is as much of an art as it is a science
- Minimalism





# 10 Commandments of Data Visualization

## DO

Use the full axis

Simplify less important information

Be creative with legends and labels

Utilize a hierarchy

Ask others for opinions

## DON'T

Use 3D effects

Use more than six colors

Change visual style

Make people do visual math

Overload the chart

David Sasson

# Some Tips...

- Show the data
- Induce the viewer to think about the substance, rather than about methodology, graphic design, [or] the technology of graphic productions...
- Avoid distorting what the data have to say
- Present many numbers in a small space
- Make large data sets coherent
- Encourage the eye to compare different pieces of data
- Reveal the data at several levels of detail
- Serve a reasonably clear purpose
- Be closely integrated with the statistical and verbal descriptions

Edward Tufte, The Display of Quantitative Information

# More Tips...

- Written things proceed from left to right (in English)
- Things proceed from top to bottom
- Center things are more important than periphery things
- Foreground things are more important than background things
- Thick things are more important than thin things
- Areas of activity contain the most important information
- Things with the same shape, size, color, or location are related
- Things stand out if they contrast with surroundings in terms of line thickness, type face, or color

T. Huckin and L. Olsen, English for Science and Technology

# Further Readings

- Harvard CS171 - Visualization
  - <http://www.cs171.org>
- GaTech CS 7450 - Information Visualization
  - <https://www.cc.gatech.edu/~stasko/7450/>
- Edward Tufte
  - <https://www.edwardtufte.com/tufte/>
- David McCandless
  - <https://informationisbeautiful.net/>
- Toolkits
  - D3JS
  - R Shiny
  - Tableau (especially if you use Google BigQuery)
  - <http://selection.datavisualization.ch/>

# Tableau

## Connect

### To a File

Microsoft Excel

Text file

JSON file

PDF file

Spatial file

Statistical file

More...

### To a Server

Tableau Server

MySQL

Oracle

Amazon Redshift

Google BigQuery

More...

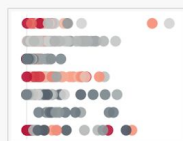
### Saved Data Sources

Sample - Superstore

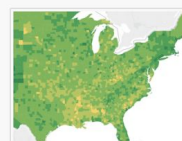
World Indicators

## Open

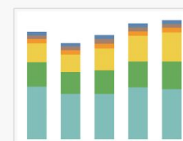
### Sample Workbooks



Superstore



Regional



World Indicators

[Open a Workbook](#)

[More Samples](#)

## Discover

▶ Training

Getting Started

Connecting

Visual Analysis

Understanding

More training

🔗 Sharing

Learn more

📁 Resources

Get Tableau

Blog - Workbooks  
Services in  
MATLAB

Register for

Forums

VIZ  
OF THE  
WEEK

European Football  
Club Rankings

Update

# Tableau

Connections

Add

googleapis.com/bigquery

Google BigQuery

Billing Project

PhysioNet Data

Project

PhysioNet Data

Dataset

mimiciii\_demo

Table

datetimeevents

diagnoses\_icd

drgcodes

icustays

inputevents\_cv

inputevents\_mv

labevents

microbiologyevents

outputevents

patients

prescriptions

procedureevents\_mv

procedures\_icd

services

transfers

New Custom SQL

New Union

Use Legacy SQL

Go to Worksheet

admissions+(mimiciii\_demo)

Connection

Live

Extract

admissions

prescriptions

Sort fields

Data source order

Show aliases

Show hidden

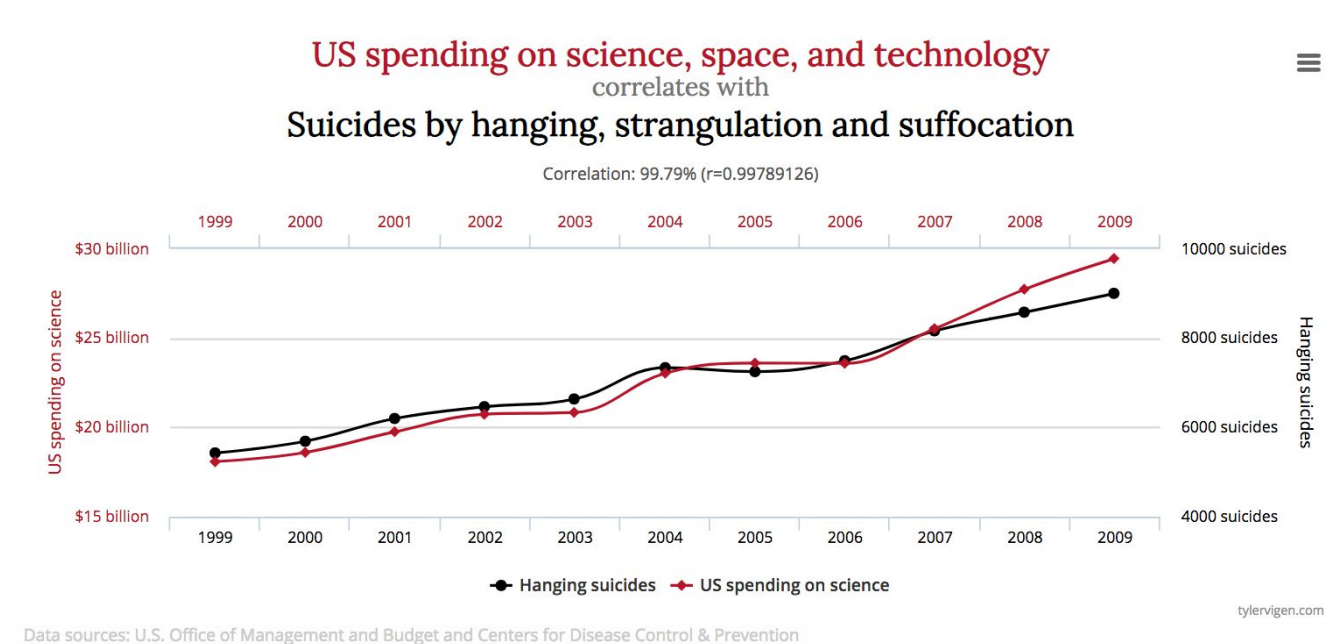
# admissions Row Id	# admissions Subject Id	# admissions Hadm Id	# admissions Admittime	# admissions Dischtime	# admissions Deathtime	Abc admissions Admission Type	Abc admissions Admission Location	Abc admissions Admission Location
40527	42346	180391	12/16/2160 13:47:00	12/21/2160 15:30:00	null	EMERGENCY	EMERGENCY ROOM ...	S
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40527	42346	180391	12/16/2160 13:47:00	12/21/2160 15:30:00	null	EMERGENCY	EMERGENCY ROOM ...	S

Data Source

Sheet 1

# Next Step

- <http://tylervigen.com/spurious-correlations>



# Tutorial 1 - Introduction to ggplot2

- You need R and RStudio locally OR using RStudio server
  - <http://35.231.235.240:8787>
- [https://github.com/ckbjimmy/hst953\\_viz](https://github.com/ckbjimmy/hst953_viz)
  - **Clone or download**
  - Upload Rmd to RStudio server
- <https://github.com/dsasson48/dataviz>



# Tutorial 2 - Visualization for Clinical Applications

- You need R and RStudio locally OR using RStudio server
  - `http://35.231.235.240:8787`
- `https://github.com/ckbjimmy/hst953\_viz`
  - **Clone or download**
  - Upload Rmd to RStudio server
- What's inside the tutorial? Plotting Function in R
  - Histogram, Density estimation
  - Scatter plot, Boxplot
  - Interaction plot
  - Supervised visualization
    - Model validation
    - Summarization
  - Other issues...