

# Day 1: Lets Play with Data!

2008 Presidential Election Donations





**\$1,644,712,232**

6X

Earth's circumference!

10%

U.S. Dept of Energy's Budget!

# Federal Election Commission (FEC)

# 2008 Donations Dataset

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"McCain, John S",

"WAHLERS, STUART E. MR.",

"A.P.O.", "AE", "091280013",

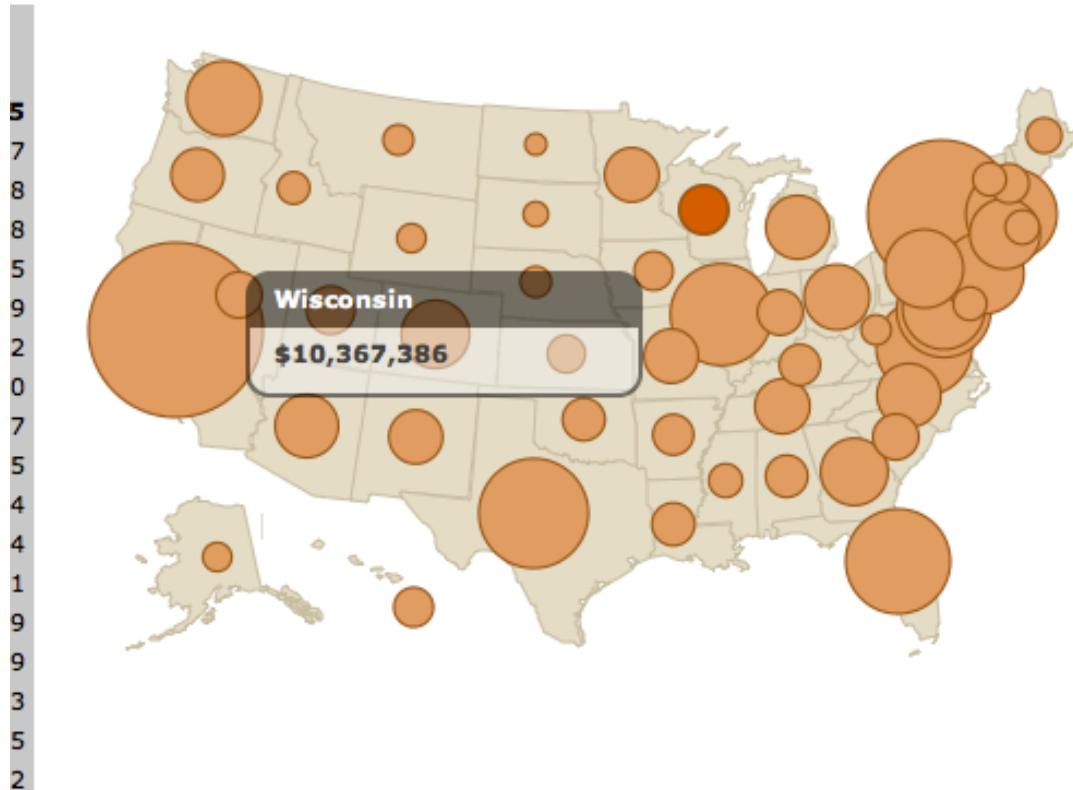
"U.S. MILITARY","SOLDIER",

250, 31-JUL-08,

"TRANSFER FROM MCCAIN VICTORY 2008",

"SA18",377957

## Contributions to All Candidates



Summary

Expenditures

[Whats Included Here?](#)

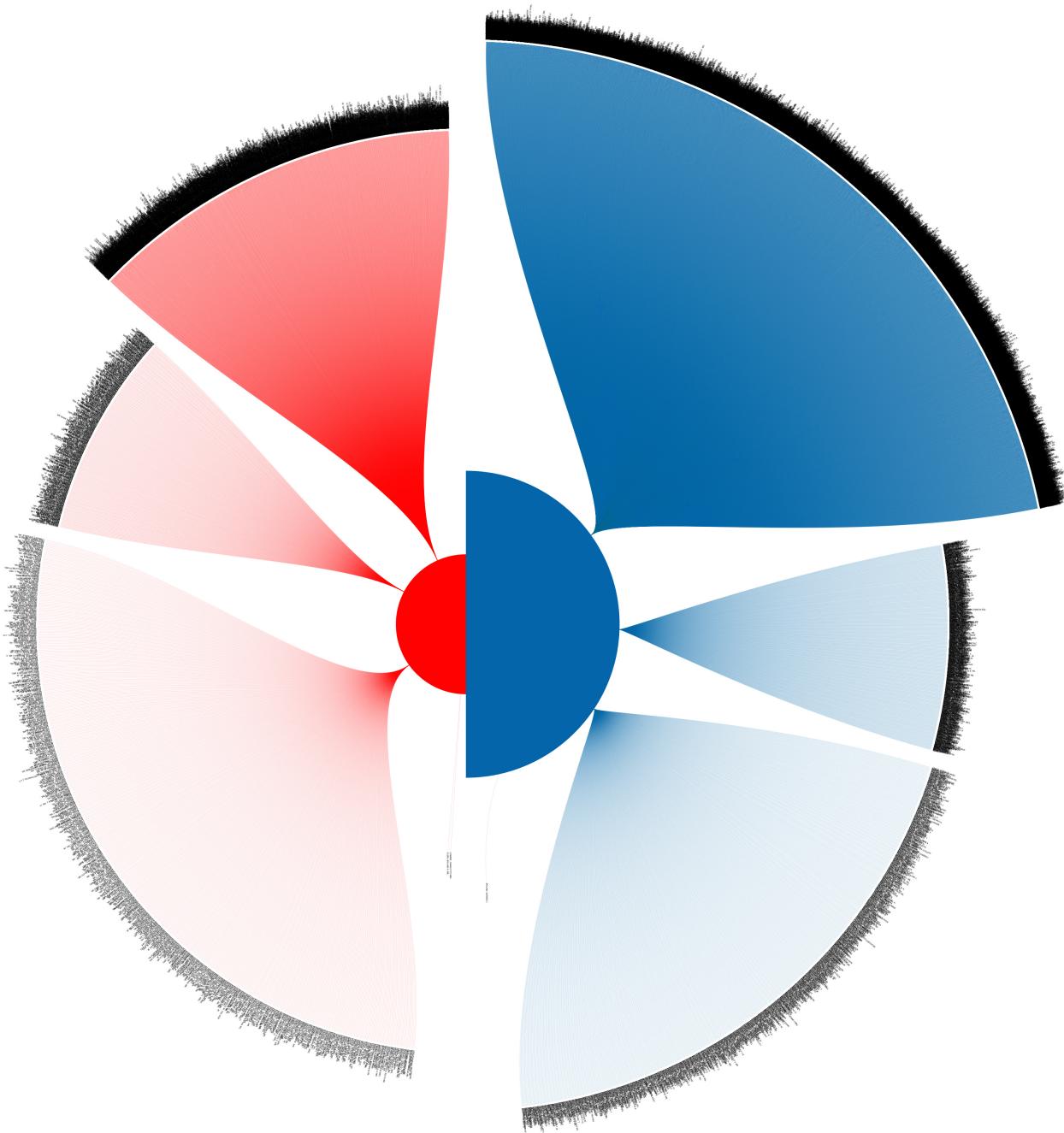
### Summary

#### Contributions

Individual	\$1,334,224,621
PAC	\$5,178,919
Party	-\$74,043
Candidate	\$60,230,846
Federal Funds	\$103,732,646
Transfers-In	\$154,259,577
Disbursements	\$1,603,258,818
Cash On Hand	\$49,237,448

### Size of Donations

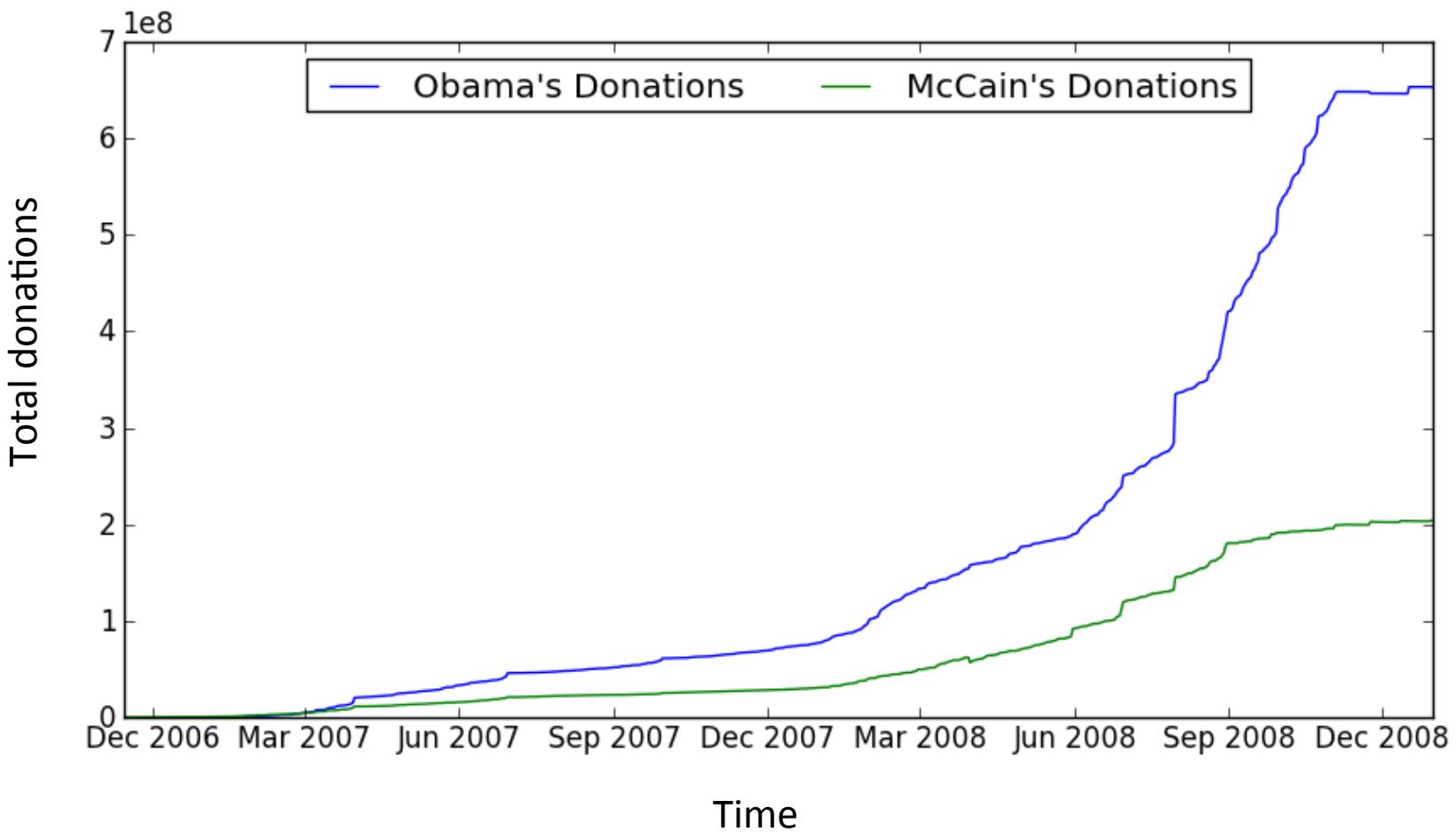
\$200 and Under	\$427,817,410
\$200.01 - \$499	\$140,622,952
\$500 - \$999	\$134,573,216
\$1000 - \$1999	\$206,433,548
\$2000 and Over	\$418,956,583







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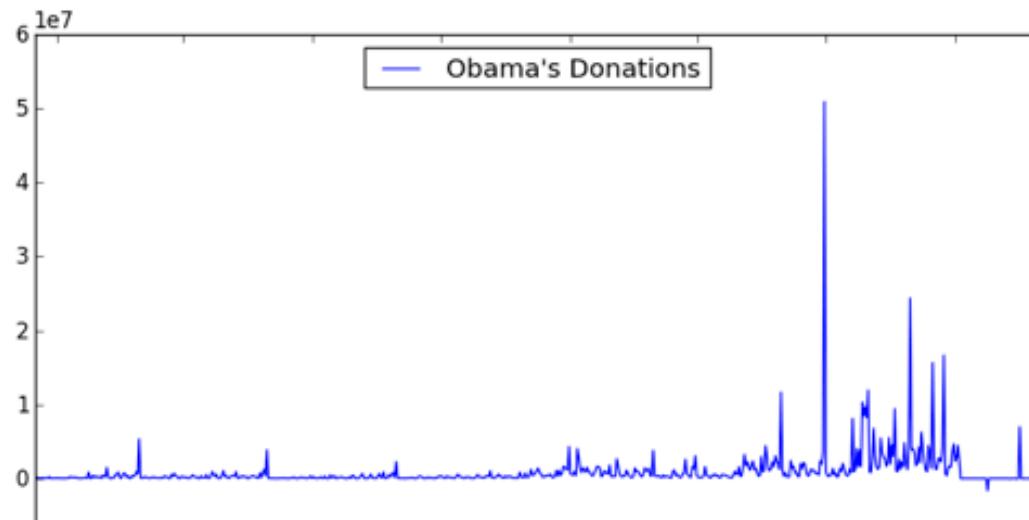
# Negative Donations

We provide `defaultdict` a function to call and return if the key doesn't exist. This is nice because we can assume a default value. It is otherwise used as a normal python dictionary:

```
>>> d = collections.defaultdict(lambda:0)
>>> d['foo']
0
>>> d['bar'] += 1
```

- We parse the dates using the `datetime` module's `strptime` function. The string `%d-%b-%y` is called a [date format string](#).
- In the loop that reads the data, we record the total donation amount for each date.
- Finally, we need to sort the data in `obamadonations` by the date (the key). `sorted(l, key=f)` returns a sorted copy of `l` and calls `f` to extract the key to use for comparison.
- `zip(*pairs)` then unzips the list of pairs into two lists.

You should see something like this:



[dataiap.github.com/dataiap/day1/](https://dataiap.github.com/dataiap/day1/)

Feedback Please!