Fluid: Explorable, Transparent Data Visualisation

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Project overview

- Demos & UX discussion
- Creating content with Fluid
- Future directions
- Call for Collaboration!

Project overview









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https://f.luid.org

https://github.com/explorable-viz/fluid

Demo: renewables

```
let series type country = [
   { x: row.year, y: row.output }
   | year \leftarrow [2013..2018], row \leftarrow renewables,
   row.year = year, row.energyType = type, row.country = country
] in LineChart {
   caption: "Output of USA relative to China",
   plots: [
      LinePlot { name: type, data: plot }
      | type ← ["Bio", "Hydro", "Solar", "Wind"],
      let plot = zipWith (fun p1 p2 \rightarrow { x: p1.x, y: p1.y / p2.y })
                          (series type "USA") (series type "China")
```

Demo: convolution

```
let zero n = const n;
    wrap n = ((n - 1) \mod n_{max}) + 1;
    extend n = min (max n 1);
let convolve image kernel method =
    let ((m, n), (i, j)) = (dims image, dims kernel);
        (half_i, half_j) = (i `quot` 2, j `quot` 2);
        area = i * j
    in [ let weightedSum = sum [
           image!(x, y) * kernel!(i' + 1, j' + 1)
           |(i', j') \leftarrow range(0, 0)(i - 1, j - 1),
             let x = method (m' + i' - half_i) m,
             let y = method(n' + j' - half_j) n,
             x \geqslant 1, x \leqslant m, y \geqslant 1, y \leqslant n
         ] in weightedSum `quot` area
          | (m', n') in (m, n) □;
```

Language overview

Current design

- Purely functional (no side-effects)
- Untyped
- Records, lists, dictionaries, 2D arrays
- Graphics library based on d3.js

Implemented in **PureScript** (Haskell clone for the web)

What's missing

- Modules and imports
- I/O load from file, db or URL
- User-defined datatypes
- Type system (with units of measure?)

Future directions

How to enable a smooth transition from content consumption to content creation?



Readers:

- Don't care how it works
- Want responsive, self-explanatory, intuitive
- Should be able to transition from passive reading to active engagement
- UI affordances (opportunities for interaction) should present themselves

We wear different hats at different times...

Authors:

- Proficient in technology
- Invested in specific workflows and skills
- Benefits of new technology need to be obvious
- Barriers to entry need to be low

What are the prospects of doing something like Fluid for R or Python?

thanks!

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