

# Explorable data visualisations

Roly Perera

rperera@turing.ac.uk

The Alan Turing Institute

Tomas Petricek

t.petricek@kent.ac.uk

University of Kent & The Alan Turing Institute

James Cheney

j.cheney@inf.ed.ac.uk

University of Edinburgh

## Project goals

Help data scientists using interactive notebooks:

- **understand** data analyses by connecting parts of visualisations to data they depend on
- **explore** consequences of changes to models or data in order to test hypotheses
- **debug** causes of unexpected outcomes

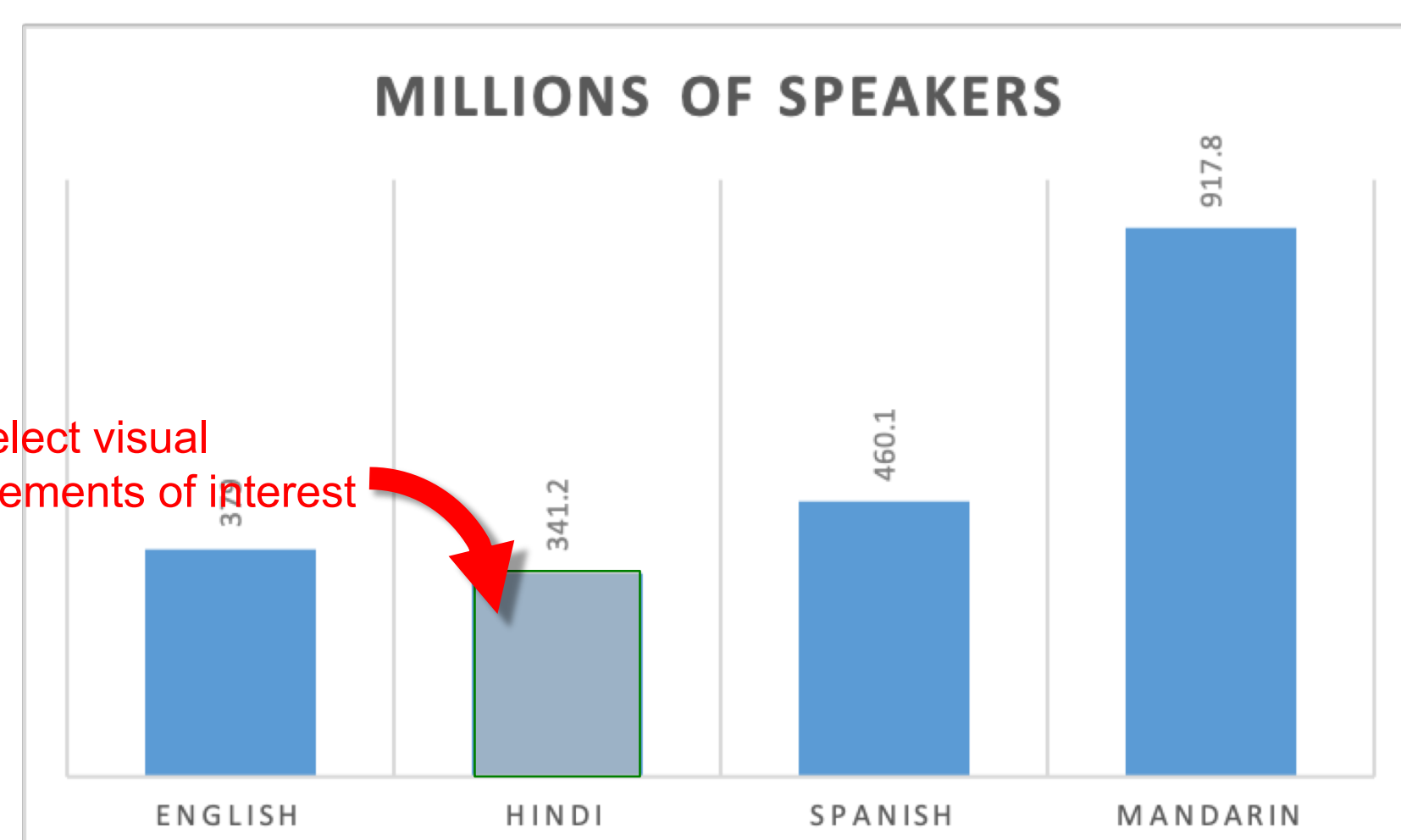
## Current: exploring dependencies

Adapt program slicing techniques for dependency tracking to the **data visualisation** domain:

```
let data = [[English, 379.0], [Hindi, 341.2], ...]
let invalid = -1
data > filter (λlang, n) => n <> invalid)
  > barChart
```

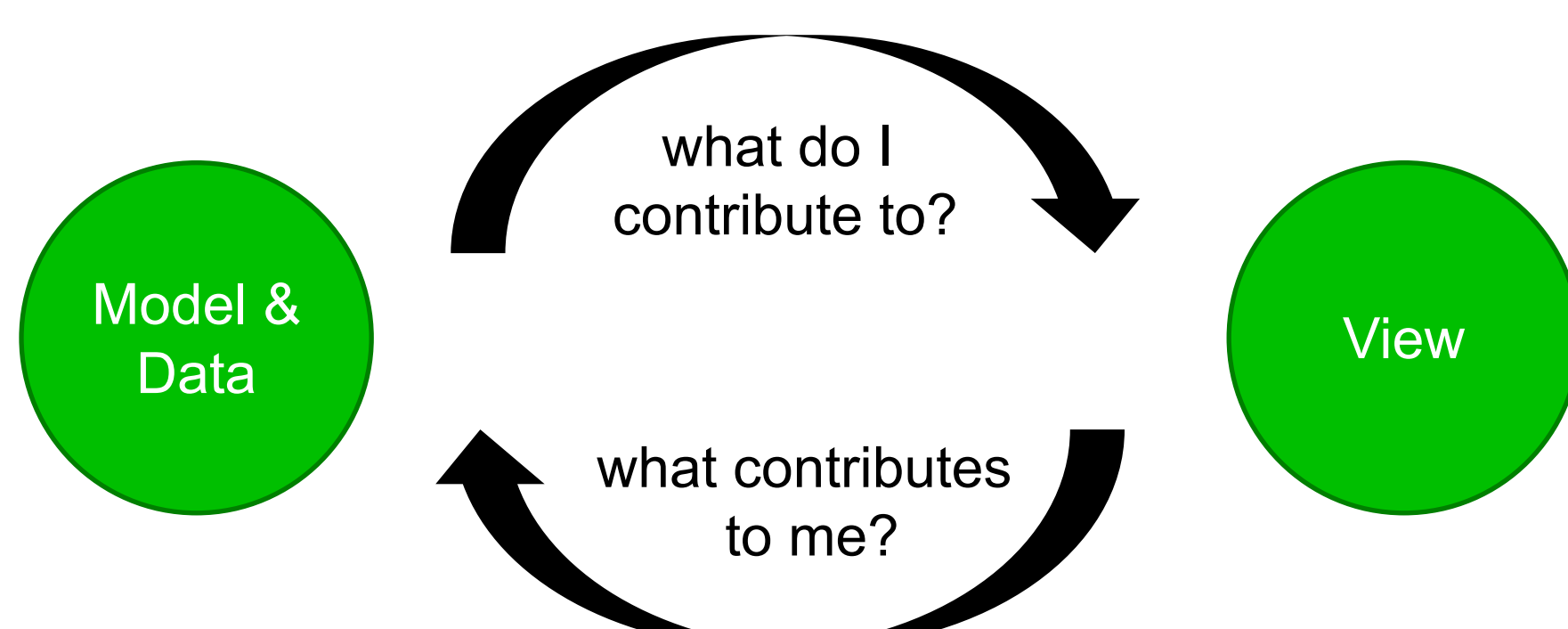
1 select visual elements of interest

2 backward dependencies are highlighted



## Lattice-theoretic foundation

Our approach to data provenance is based on **Galois connections** and analyses dependencies in both directions:



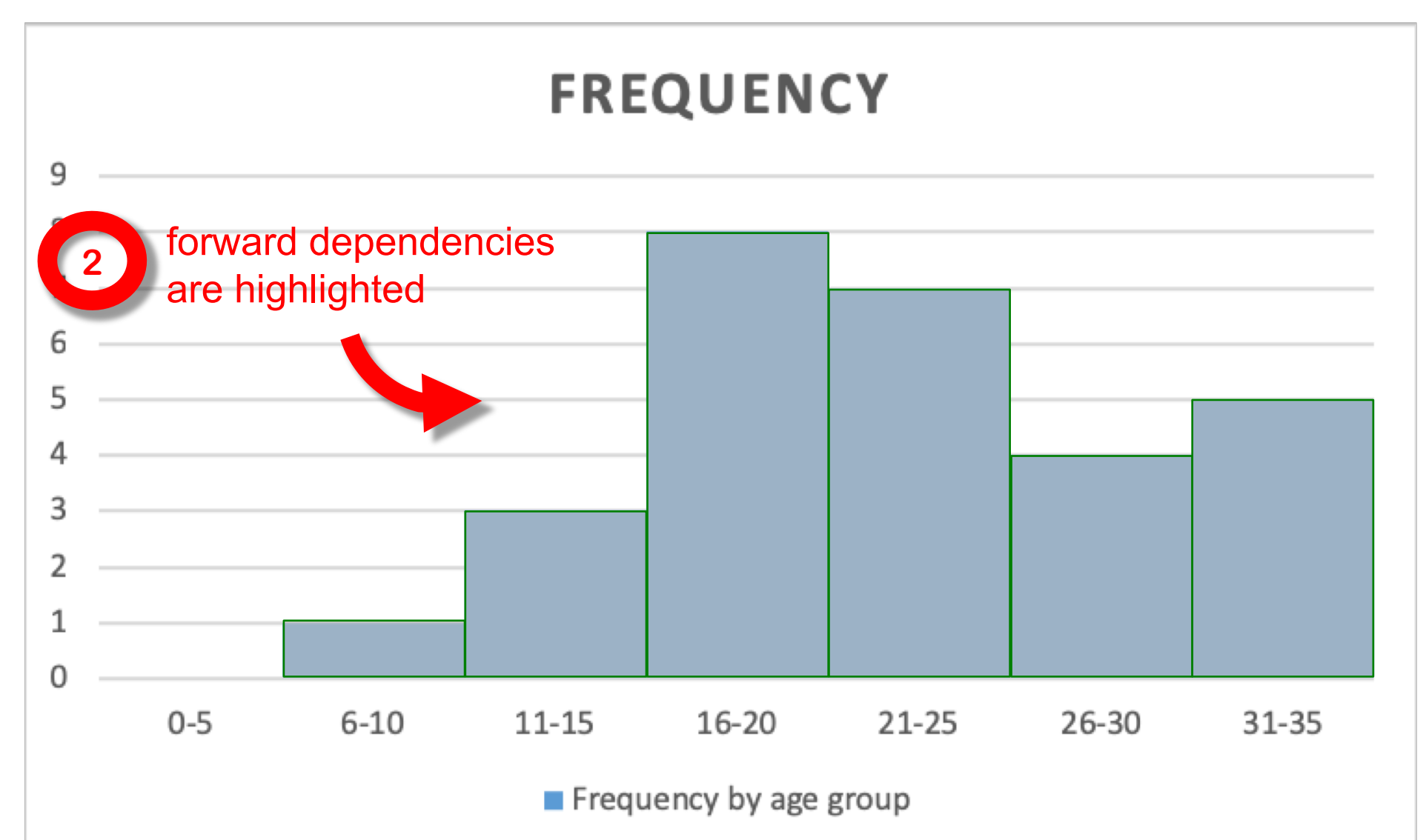
$$\text{source}(v_\alpha) = \bigwedge \{d_{\alpha'} \mid \text{visualise}(d_{\alpha'}) \geq v_\alpha\}$$

## Future: exploring changes

Analyses involving aggregate properties such as **binning** or **averaging** often have many dependencies:

```
let data = [[yes, 18], [no, 12], [yes, 34], ...]
let bins = [5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35]
data > groupBy bins
  > histogram
```

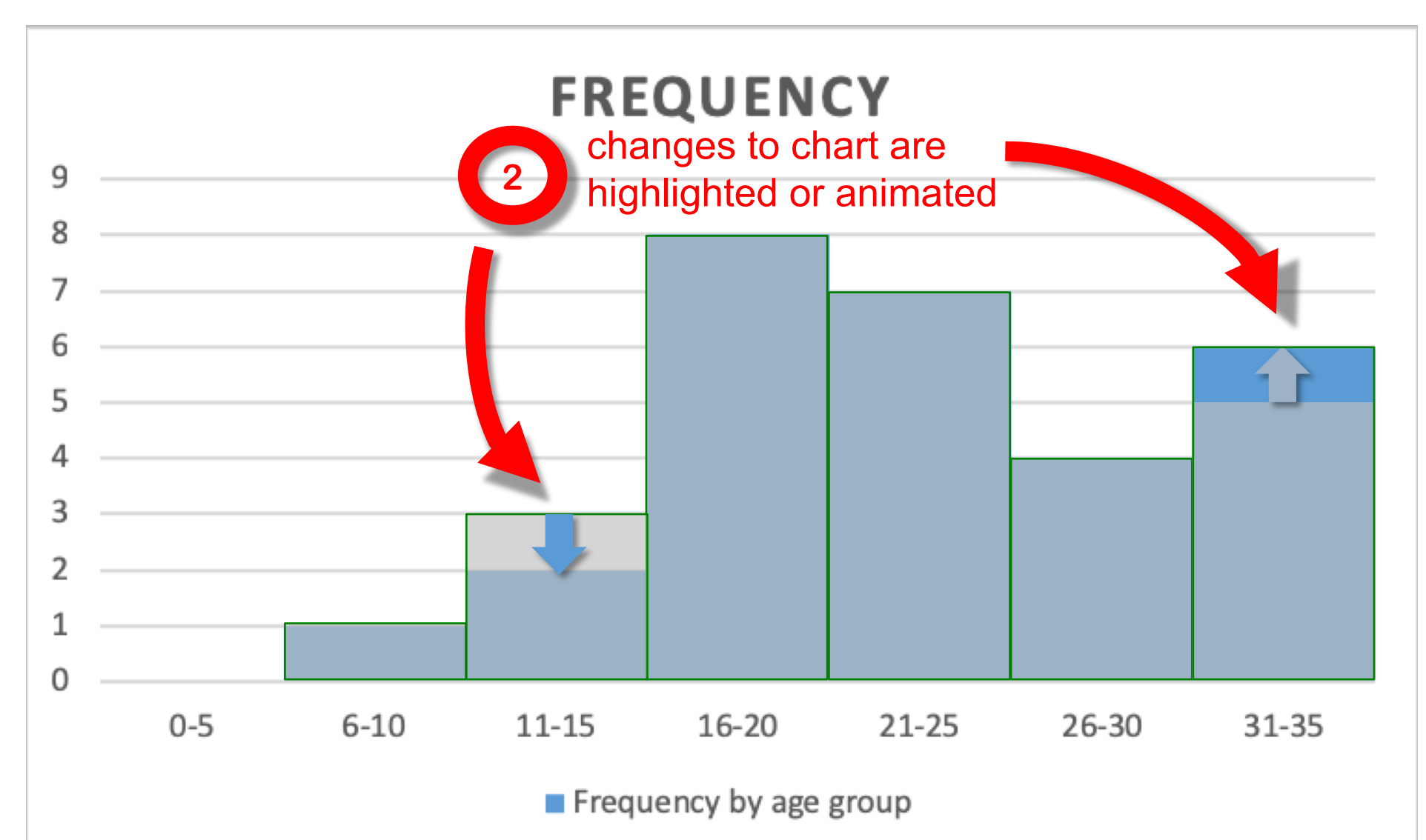
1 select data or code of interest



Generalise prior techniques to associate **changes in data or analyses** to changes in visualisations:

```
let data = [[yes, 18], [no, 12], [yes, 34], ...]
let bins = [5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35]
data > groupBy bins
  > histogram
```

1 modify data or code



## Connections to explore

- probabilistic programming
- incremental computation