

# Vis Programming Tutorial



CS 7450 - Information Visualization

Sep. 9, 2015

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Guest lecturer: Chad Stolper

## HW 3



- Three options
  - D3 (tutorial now)
  - Processing (tutorial Friday, when?)
  - Hand-drawn (no tutorial needed)

## **D3: The Crash Course**



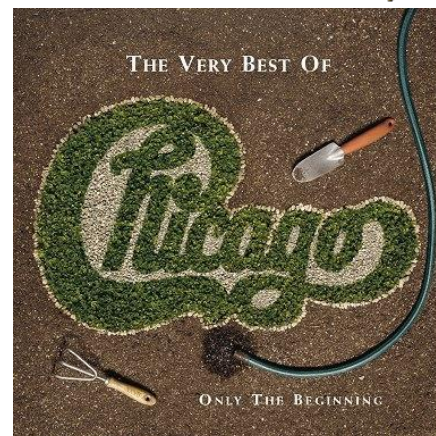
## **D3: The Early Sticking Points**



## D3: Only the Beginning



## D3: Only the Beginning





Please do not be afraid to ask questions!

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<http://bl.ocks.org/mbostock/1256572>

8



<http://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/2015-auto-sales/>

9



**BUT FIRST....**

10



All the stuff you need to know already...



Who has some programming experience?

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Who has some web development  
experience?

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## Chrome Inspector and Console



- Open the webpage
- Right-click on anything
- Click inspect this element
- Click on the  $\geq$  button at the top of the inspector to open the console as well
  - (2<sup>nd</sup> from the left)

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## Starting a Local Webserver



Necessary for Chrome, not for Safari or Firefox

- Python 2.x
  - `python -m SimpleHTTPServer 8000`
- Python 3.x
  - `python -m http.server 8000`
- <http://localhost:8000>

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How many of you have experience with  
Javascript?

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<https://www.destroyallsoftware.com/talks/wat>

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# Javascript 101



- All variables are global unless declared using `var`
  - `x = 300` (global) vs. `var x = 300` (local)
- Semicolons are optional
- `"text"` is the same as ``text``
- JS arrays and objects are almost exactly the same syntax as python's lists `[ ]` and dicts `{ }`
- `object.key` is the same as `object['key']`
- Print to the console using `console.log( )`

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## Javascript 102: Functional Programming



- Javascript is a ***functional language***
  - Functions are themselves objects
  - Functions can be stored as variables
  - Functions can be passed as parameters
- D3 uses these abilities extensively!

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## Javascript 102: Functional Programming



- Javascript is a ***functional language***
  - Functions are themselves objects
  - Functions can be stored as variables
  - **Functions can be passed as parameters**
- D3 uses these abilities extensively!

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## Array.map( )



- Used for applying a function to each element of an array
- The function provided as a parameter takes one parameter itself:
  - d: a/each data point
- [https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/JavaScript/Reference/Global\\_Objects/Array/map](https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/JavaScript/Reference/Global_Objects/Array/map)

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## Array.map( )



```
var x = [{pos:1},{pos:2},{pos:3},{pos:4}]
var a = x.map(function(d) {
    return d.pos;
})

a : [1,2,3,4]
```

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## MDN



- Mozilla Developer Network
- <https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/JavaScript/Reference>
- (Easier: google "<command> mdn")

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# Method Chaining



- “Syntactic Sugar” paradigm where each method returns the object that it was called on

```
group.attr("x", 5).attr("y", 5) //returns group
```

is the same as

```
group.attr("x", 5) //returns group
```

```
group.attr("y", 5) //returns group
```

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## SVG BASICS

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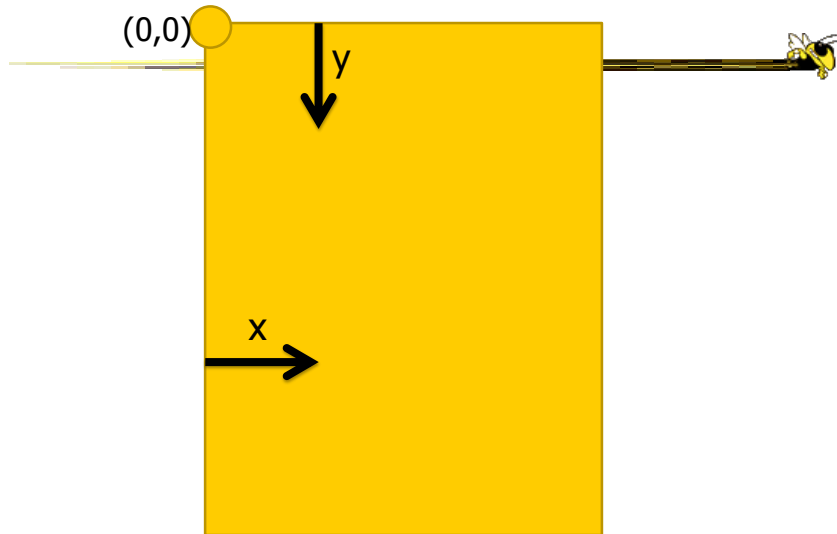
How many of you have experience with  
SVG?

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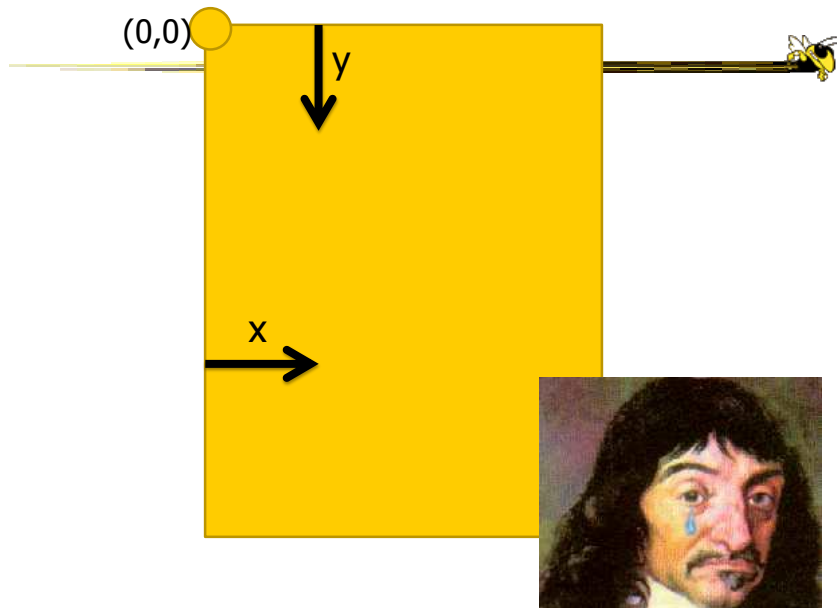


How many have experience with 2D  
computer graphics (such as Java Swing)?

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<http://smg.photobucket.com/user/Pavan2099/media/RvB/Descart-weeping.png.html>

# SVG Basics



SVG -> XML Vector Graphics  
(Scalable Vector Graphics)

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# SVG Basics



- XML Vector Graphics
  - Tags with Attributes
  - `<circle r=5 fill="green"></circle>`
- W3C Standard
  - <http://www.w3.org/TR/SVG/>
- Supported by all the major browsers



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## SVG Basics



- `<svg>`
- `<circle>`
- `<rect>`
- `<path>`
- `<g>`

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## SVG Basics



- `<svg>`
- `<circle>`
- `<rect>`
- `<path>`
- `<g>`
- `<text>` (after I've talked about D3)

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## <svg> element



- Overarching canvas
- (optional) Attributes:
  - width
  - height
- Create with
  - `d3.select("#vis").append("svg:svg")`

```
<body>
  <div id="vis">
    </div>
  </body>
```

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## <svg> element



- Overarching canvas
- (optional) Attributes:
  - width
  - height
- Create with
  - `d3.select("#vis").append("svg:svg")`

```
<body>
  <div id="vis">
    <svg></svg>
  </div>
</body>
```

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## <circle> element



- Attributes:
  - cx (relative to the LEFT of the container)
  - cy (relative to the TOP of the container)
  - r (radius)
- (optional) Attributes:
  - fill (color)
  - stroke (the color of the stroke)
  - stroke-width (the width of the stroke)
- Create with
  - `.append("svg:circle")`

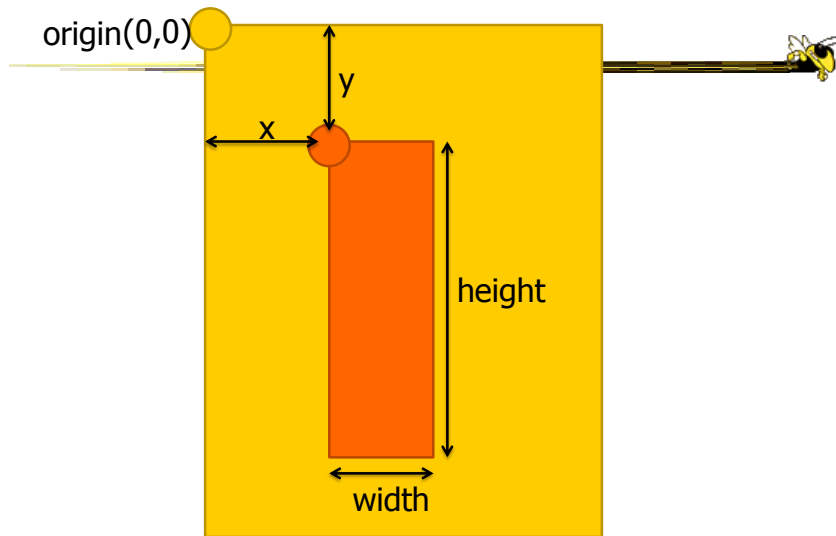
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## <rect> element

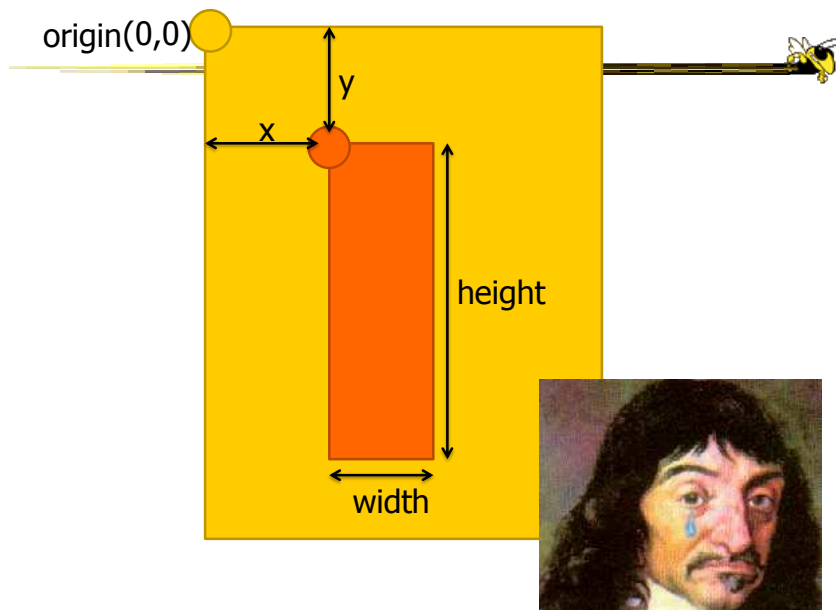


- Attributes:
  - x (relative to the LEFT of the container)
  - y (relative to the TOP of the container)
  - width (cannot be negative)
  - height (cannot be negative)
- (optional) Attributes:
  - fill (color)
  - stroke (the color of the stroke)
  - stroke-width (the width of the stroke)
- Create with
  - `.append("svg:rect")`


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---

Rather than positioning each element, what if we want to position (or style) a group of elements?

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## **<g> element**



---

- Generic container (Group) element
- Attributes
  - transform
  - (fill,stroke,etc.)
- Create with:
  - `var group = vis.append("svg:g")`
- Add things to the group with:
  - `group.append("svg:circle")`
  - `group.append("svg:rect")`
  - `group.append("svg:text")`

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# CSS Selectors Reference



- #vis → <tag id="vis">
- circle → <circle>
- .canary → <tag class="canary">
- [color="blue"] → <tag color="blue">
- And any combinations...
  - AND
    - circle.canary → <circle class="canary">
  - OR
    - circle,.canary → <circle> <rect class="canary">

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## AND NOW D3...

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Mike Bostock and Jeff Heer @ Stanford  
2009- Protovis

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Mike Bostock and Jeff Heer @ Stanford  
2009- Protovis

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Mike Bostock and Jeff Heer @ Stanford  
2009- Protovis  
2011- D3.js

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Univ. of Washington

Mike Bostock and Jeff Heer @ Stanford  
2009- Protovis  
2011- D3.js

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New York Times



Univ. of Washington



Mike Bostock and Jeff Heer @ Stanford

2009- Protovis

2011- D3.js

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## D3



- Grand Reductionist Statements
- Loading Data
- Enter-Update-Exit Paradigm
- Scales
- Axes
- Layouts
- Transitions and Interaction
- Where to go from here

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# D3.js in a Nutshell



D3 is a really powerful for-loop  
with a ton of useful helper functions

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## D3



Declarative, domain-specific specification  
language for manipulating the DOM

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# Importing D3



```
<html >
  <head>
    <script src='lib/d3.js' charset='utf-8'></script>
    <script src='js/project.js'></script>
  </head>
  <body>
    <div id="vis"></div>
  </body>
</html>
```

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# Importing D3



```
<html >
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    <script src='lib/d3.js' charset='utf-8'></script>
    <script src='js/project.js'></script>
  </head>
  <body>
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  </body>
</html>
```

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# Importing D3



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  </head>
  <body>
    <div id="vis"></div>
  </body>
</html>
```



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# Importing D3



```
<html >
  <head>
    <script src='lib/d3.js' charset='utf-8'></script>
  </head>
  <body>
    <div
  </body>
</html>
```



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```
1249
1250
1251
1252
1253
1254
1255
1256
1257
1258
1259
1260
1261
1262
1263
1264
1265
1266
1267
1268
1269
1270
1271
1272
```

# Importing D3



```
<html >
  <head>
    <script src='lib/d3.js' charset='utf-8'></script>
    <script src='js/project.js'></script>
  </head>
  <body>
    <div id="vis"></div>
  </body>
</html>
```

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## Assigning the Canvas to a Variable



```
var vis = d3.select("#vis")
    .append("svg:svg")

<body>
  <div id="vis"><svg></svg></div>
</body>
```

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# Loading Data



- `d3.csv(fileloc, callback)`
- `d3.tsv(fileloc, callback)`
- `d3.json(fileloc, callback)`
- **fileloc:** string file location
  - `"data/datafile.csv"`
- **callback:** `function(rawdata) { }`

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## rawdata from a CSV file



```
[  
  {  
    'name': 'Adam',  
    'school': 'GT',  
    'age': '18'  
  },  
  {  
    'name': 'Barbara',  
    'school': 'Emory',  
    'age': '22'  
  },  
  {  
    'name': 'Calvin',  
    'school': 'GSU',  
    'age': '30'  
  }  
]
```

name	school	age
Adam	GT	18
Barbara	Emory	22
Calvin	GSU	30

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# Problem



```
[
  {
    'name': 'Adam',
    'school': 'GT',
    'age': '18'
  },
  {
    'name': 'Barbara',
    'school': 'Emory',
    'age': '22'
  },
  {
    'name': 'Calvin',
    'school': 'GSU',
    'age': '30'
  }
]
```

- Ages are Strings!
- They should be ints!
- We can fix that:

```
for (var d: data) {
    d = data[d]
    d.age = +d.age
}
```

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# Problem



```
[
  {
    'name': 'Adam',
    'school': 'GT',
    'age': '18'
  },
  {
    'name': 'Barbara',
    'school': 'Emory',
    'age': '22'
  },
  {
    'name': 'Calvin',
    'school': 'GSU',
    'age': '30'
  }
]
```

- Ages are Strings!
- They should be ints!
- We can fix that:

```
for (var d: data) {
    d = data[d]
    d.age = +d.age
}
```

WAT

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## rawdata from a CSV file



```
[
  {
    'name': 'Adam',
    'school': 'GT',
    'age': 18
  },
  {
    'name': 'Barbara',
    'school': 'Emory',
    'age': 22
  },
  {
    'name': 'Calvin',
    'school': 'GSU',
    'age': 30
  }
]
```

name	school	age
Adam	GT	18
Barbara	Emory	22
Calvin	GSU	30

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## rawdata from a CSV file



```
[
  {
    'name': 'Adam',
    'school': 'GT',
    'age': 18
  },
  {
    'name': 'Barbara',
    'school': 'Emory',
    'age': 22
  },
  {
    'name': 'Calvin',
    'school': 'GSU',
    'age': 30
  }
]
```

name	school	age
Adam	GT	18
Barbara	Emory	22
Calvin	GSU	30

Ok, so let's map  
this data to  
visual elements!

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## D3



Declarative, domain-specific specification  
language for manipulating the DOM

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## D3



Declarative, domain-specific specification  
language for manipulating the DOM

Define a template for each type of element

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## D3



Declarative, domain-specific specification  
language for manipulating the DOM

Define a template for each type of element  
D3 draws one element for each data point

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## Enter-Update-Exit



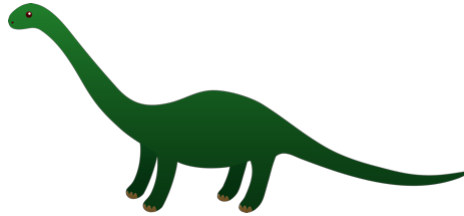
- The *most* critical facet of how D3 works
- If you remember nothing else from today, remember this...
- “Enter-Update-Exit”
- “Enter-Update-Exit”
- “Enter-Update-Exit”

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# Enter-Update-Exit



- The *most* critical facet of how D3 works
- If you remember nothing else from today, remember this...
- "Enter-Update-Exit"
- "Enter-Update-Exit"
- "Enter-Update-Exit"



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# Enter-Update-Exit



- Pattern:
  - Select a "group" of "elements"
  - Assign data to the group
  - **Enter:** Create new elements for data points that don't have them yet and set constant or initial attribute values
  - **Update:** Set the attributes of all the elements based on the data
  - **Exit:** Remove elements that don't have data anymore

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Can be hard to grok:  
You can select groups of elements that  
DON'T EXIST YET

<http://bost.ocks.org/mike/join/>

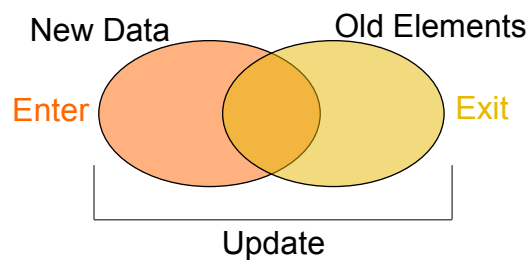
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## **.enter( ) and .exit( )**



- **.enter( )**
  - New data points

- **.exit( )**
  - Old elements



- **.enter( ) and .exit( ) only exist when .data( ) has been called**

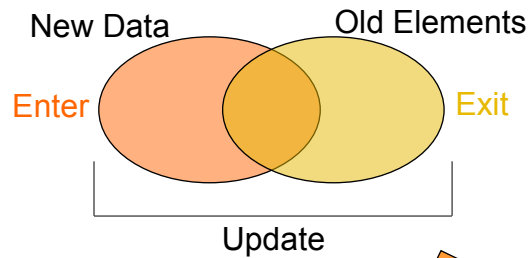
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## **.enter( ) and .exit( )**



- **.enter( )**
  - New data points

- **.exit( )**
  - Old elements



- **.enter() and .exit() only exist when .data() has been called**

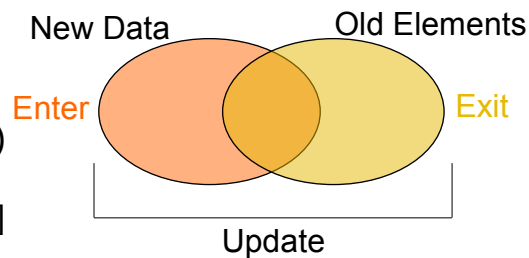


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## **.enter( ) and .exit( )**



- **.data( [1,2,3,4] )**
  - Enter: [1,2,3,4]
  - Update: [1,2,3,4]
  - Exit: [ ]
- **.data ( [1,2,3,4,5,6] )**
  - Enter: [5,6]
  - Update: [1,2,3,4,5,6]
  - Exit: [ ]
- **.data ( [1,2,3] )**
  - Enter: [ ]
  - Update: ???
  - Exit: [4,5,6]

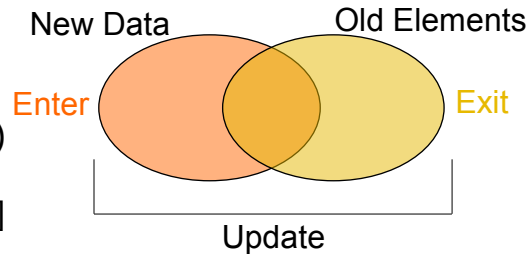


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## **.enter( ) and .exit( )**



- `.data( [1,2,3,4] )`
  - Enter: `[1,2,3,4]`
  - Update: `[1,2,3,4]`
  - Exit: `[ ]`
- `.data ( [1,2,3,4,5,6] )`
  - Enter: `[5,6]`
  - Update: `[1,2,3,4,5,6]`
  - Exit: `[ ]`
- `.data ( [1,2,3] )`
  - Enter: `[ ]`
  - Update: `[1,2,3,4,5,6]`
  - Exit: `[4,5,6]`



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## **Data Key Functions**



- `.data(rawdata)` defaults to assuming that the index of the point is the key
- `.data(rawdata, function(d,i){ })` allows you to set a key functions
- e.g.
  - `.data(rawdata, function(d,i){ return d.id; })`
  - `.data(rawdata, function(d,i){ return d.name; })`

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## E-U-E Pattern Template



```
var group = vis.selectAll("rect")
    .data(rawdata) //rawdata must be an array!
group.enter( ).append("svg:rect") //ENTER!
    .attr( )
    .style( )
group //UPDATE!
    .attr( )
    .style( )
group.exit( ).remove( ) //EXIT!
```

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# WARNING!!!

# !

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## E-U-E Pattern Template



```
var group = vis.selectAll("rect")
    .data(rawdata) //rawdata must be an array!
group.enter( ).append("svg:rect") //ENTER!
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    .attr( )
    .style( )
group.exit( ).remove( ) //EXIT!
```

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## E-U-E Pattern Template



```
var group = vis.selectAll("rect")
    .data(rawdata) //rawdata must be an array!
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    .style( )
group //UPDATE!
    .attr( )
    .style( )
group.exit( ).remove( ) //EXIT!
```

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# E-U-E Pattern Template



```
var group = vis.selectAll("rect")
    .data(rawdata) //rawdata must be an array!
group.enter( ).append("svg:rect") //ENTER!
    .attr( )
    .style( )
group //UPDATE!
    .attr( )
    .style( )
group.exit( ).remove( ) //EXIT!
```



Many online examples  
drop the variable name  
before .enter()  
I *highly* recommend you  
don't!

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## .attr( )



- The Attribute Method
- Sets attributes such as x, y, width, height, and fill
- Technical details:
  - `group.attr("x", 5)`
  - `<rect x="5"></rect>`

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## **.attr( ) and Functional Programming**



```
[ {size: 10}, {size: 8}, {size: 12.2} ]

.attr("height", function(d,i){ return d.size })
    d: the data point
.attr("x", function(d,i){ return (i+1)*5; })
    i: the index of the data point

<rect height="10" x="5"></rect>
<rect height="8" x="10"></rect>
<rect height="12.2" x="15"></rect>
```

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## **<text> elements**



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## <text> elements



- I'm going to apologize in advance here for the lousy job the W3C did with the <text> definition.
- You're going to have to just either memorize these things or keep referring back to <http://www.w3c.org/TR/SVG/text.html> (first Google hit for "svg text") like I do.

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## <text> elements



- Extra Method in D3
  - `.text("Your Text Goes Here")`
  - `<tag>Your Text Goes Here</tag>`
- Attributes
  - x
  - y
- Styles
  - text-anchor: start, middle, end
  - dominant-baseline: [nothing], hanging, middle

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## text-anchor style



Where is (0,0)?

● This is my ● line of text ●

start

middle

end

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## dominant-baseline style



Where is (0,0)?

hanging  
middle  
default ● This is my line of text.

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## <text> example



```
group.append("svg:text")
    .text(function(d){return d.name})
    .attr("x", function(d,i){return i*5})
    .attr("y", function(d,i){return height;})
    .style("dominant-baseline","hanging")
    .style("text-anchor", "middle")
```

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## The .style() Function



Like attr, but for the style attribute

- Inline css styling

```
.style("prop1", "val1")
.style("prop2", "val2")
.style("prop3", function(d,i){ })
```

```
<ele style="prop1: val1; prop2: val2;">
```

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## <text> example



```
group.append("svg:text")
    .text(function(d){return d.name})
    .attr("x", function(d,i){return i*5})
    .attr("y", function(d,i){return height;})
    .style("dominant-baseline", "hanging")
    .style("text-anchor", "middle")
```

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What if you have  
two different types of circles?

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# Classing



- CSS Classes
  - Any number of classes per element
  - Select using “.classname”

```
red = vis.selectAll("circle.redcircle")
      .data(reddata, function(d){return d.id;})
red.enter( ).append("svg:circle")
      .classed("redcircle", "true")
      blue = vis.selectAll("circle.bluecircle")
      .data(bluedata, function(d){return d.id;})
      blue.enter( ).append("svg:circle")
      .classed("bluecircle", "true")
      vis.selectAll(".bluecircle").attr("fill", "blue")
red.attr("fill", "red")
```

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- .attr("height", 5) is boring
- .attr("height", function(d,i){ return i\*5; })  
only works for fixed values
- .attr("height", function(d){ return d; }) can  
blow up really quickly...

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# Scales

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## Scales



- D3 has many types of scales
- I am only going to cover two:
  - Linear Scales
  - Ordinal Scales

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# Linear Scales



```
var xscale = d3.scale.linear( )  
    .domain( [min, max] )  
    .range( [minOut, maxOut] )
```

```
group.attr("x", function(d,i){  
    return xscale(d.size);  
})
```

$y = mx + b$

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# Min and Max



But how do you figure out the min and max  
for the domain?

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**D3**



A really powerful for-loop with a ton of  
useful helper functions

99

**D3**



A really powerful for-loop with a ton of  
useful helper functions

100

## Min and Max



- `d3.min( [ ] )` → number
- `d3.max( [ ] )` → number
- `d3.extent( [ ] )` → [number,number]

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## Min and Max



- `d3.min( [ ] )` → number
- `d3.max( [ ] )` → number
- `d3.extent( [ ] )` → [number,number]
- All can be combined with
  - `.map( function(d){ } )`, which returns an [ ]

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```
d3.min(  
  data.map( function(d){ return d.age; })  
) // returns the maximum age
```

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```
var max = d3.max(  
  data.map( function(d){ return d.age; })  
) // returns the maximum age  
  
var yscale = d3.scale.linear( )  
  .domain( [0, max] )  
  .range( [0, 100] )
```

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# Linear Scales



- You can even keep the same scale, and just update the domain and/or range as necessary
- Note: This will not ***update*** the graphics all on its own

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# Ordinal Scales




- D3 has built-in color scales!
  - (And they're easy!)
- `var colorscale = d3.scale.category10( )`
- Also available are:
  - `category20( )`
  - `category20b( )`
  - `category20c( )`
  - (and even a few more)

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## Ordinal Categorical Scales




- D3 has built-in color scales!
  - (And they're easy!)
- `var colorscale = d3.scale.category10( )`  

- Also available are:
  - `category20( )`
  - `category20b( )`
  - `category20c( )`
  - (and even a few more)

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## Ordinal Categorical Scales



- `[ {type: 'Bird'}, {type: 'Rodent'}, {type: 'Bird'} ]`
- `var colorscale = d3.scale.category10( )`
- `.attr("fill", function(d,i) {`  
    `return colorscale(d.type)`   
    `})`  
  
    —  
    —  
    —

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# Ordinal Categorical Scales



- [ {type: 'Bird'}, {type: 'Rodent'}, {type: 'Bird'} ]
- var colorscale = d3.scale.category10( )
- .attr("fill",function(d,i){  
    return colorscale(d.type)



Bird

Blue

—  
—  
—

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# Ordinal Categorical Scales



- [ {type: 'Bird'}, {type: 'Rodent'}, {type: 'Bird'} ]
- var colorscale = d3.scale.category10( )
- .attr("fill",function(d,i){  
    return colorscale(d.type)



Bird

Blue

— <rect fill="blue"></rect>  
—  
—

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# Ordinal Categorical Scales



- [ {type: 'Bird'}, {type: 'Rodent'}, {type: 'Bird'} ]
- var colorscale = d3.scale.category10( )
- .attr("fill",function(d,i){  
    return colorscale(d.type)



Bird      Blue

Rodent Orange

— <rect fill="blue"></rect>

—

—

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# Ordinal Categorical Scales



- [ {type: 'Bird'}, {type: 'Rodent'}, {type: 'Bird'} ]
- var colorscale = d3.scale.category10( )
- .attr("fill",function(d,i){  
    return colorscale(d.type)



Bird      Blue

Rodent Orange

— <rect fill="blue"></rect>

— <rect fill="orange"></rect>

—

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# Ordinal Categorical Scales



- [ {type: 'Bird'}, {type: 'Rodent'}, {type: 'Bird'} ]
- var colorscale = d3.scale.category10( )
- .attr("fill", function(d,i) {  
    return colorscale(d.type)  
})



Bird      Blue  
Rodent Orange

```
- <rect fill="blue"></rect>  
- <rect fill="orange"></rect>  
- <rect fill="blue"></rect>
```

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D3 also has *visual* helper-functions

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# Axes



```
yaxisglyph = vis.append("g")

yaxis = d3.svg.axis( )
    .scale( yscale ) //must be a numerical scale
    .orient( 'left' ) //or 'right', 'top', or 'bottom'
    .ticks( 6 ) //number of ticks, default is 10
yaxisglyph.call(yaxis)
```

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D3 even has some  
entire techniques built in...

<http://bl.ocks.org/mbostock/4063582>

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What if the data is changing?

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## E-U-E Pattern Template



```
var group = vis.selectAll("rect")
    .data(rawdata) //rawdata must be an array!
group.enter( ).append("svg:rect") //ENTER!
    .attr( )
    .attr( )
group //UPDATE!
    .attr( )
    .attr( )
group.exit( ).remove( ) //EXIT!
```

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# E-U-E Pattern Template



```
function redraw(rawdata) {
  var group = vis.selectAll("rect")
    .data(rawdata) //rawdata must be an array!
  group.enter( ).append("svg:rect") //ENTER!
    .attr( )
    .attr( )
  group //UPDATE!
    .attr( )
    .attr( )
  group.exit( ).remove( ) //EXIT!
}
```

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# E-U-E Pattern Template



```
function redraw(rawdata) {
  var group = vis.selectAll("rect")
    .data(rawdata) //rawdata must be an array!
  group.enter( ).append("svg:rect") //ENTER!
    .attr( )
    .attr( )

  group.transition( ) //UPDATE!
    .attr( )
    .attr( )
  group.exit( ).remove( ) //EXIT!
}
```

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# Transitions



- CSS3 transitions with D3 are magical!
- D3 interpolates values for you...

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# Transitions



```
rect.attr("height", 0)
rect.transition( )
    .delay( 500 ) //can be a function of data
    .duration(200) //can be a function of data
    .attr("height", 5) //can be a function of data
    .style("fill","green") //can be a function of data
```

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So transitions allow a vis to be dynamic...  
But they're not really interactive...

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## Interaction



The on( ) Method

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## **.on( )**



```
rect.on ("click", function(d) {  
    d.color = "blue";  
    redraw( rawdata )  
})
```

### HTML Events

- click
- mouseover
- mouseenter
- mouseout
- etc.

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## **.on( )**



```
rect.on ("click", function(d) {  
    d.color = "blue";  
    redraw( rawdata )  
})
```



d is the data  
point backing  
the element  
clicked on

### HTML Events

- click
- mouseover
- mouseenter
- mouseout
- etc.

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## Where to get learn more...



- <http://d3js.org/>
  - Tons of examples and basics.
- <https://github.com/mbostock/d3/wiki/API-Reference>
  - Official D3 documentation. Extremely well done.
- <https://github.com/mbostock/d3/wiki/Tutorials>
  - List of seemingly ALL the tutorials online
- The Google/StackOverflow combination
  - (my personal favorite)

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## When You're Bored...



<http://www.koalastothemax.com/>

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Thanks!

[chadstolper@gatech.edu](mailto:chadstolper@gatech.edu)

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Good Luck!

[chadstolper@gatech.edu](mailto:chadstolper@gatech.edu)

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Questions?

chadstolper@gatech.edu

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## Visualization of the Day



- First one up today
- Instructions on website, details on t-square

# Project



- Teams set?
- Topic discussions
  
- Teams & Topics due Monday 14th
  - You must meet me or TA before then
  - Bring 3 copies

Fall 2015

CS 7450

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# HW 2



- Back on Monday

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# Upcoming



- InfoVis Systems & Toolkits
  - Reading:  
Viegas et al, '07
- Commercial Systems & Demos
  - Reading:  
Spence & Beilken, '00