

Reference

- Ward, M., Grinstein, G. G., Keim, D. **Interactive data visualization foundations, techniques, and applications**. Natick, Mass., A K Peters, 2010.
- Binary distance :
<http://people.revoledu.com/kardi/tutorial/Similarity/BinaryVariables.html>

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Visual Representation of Data

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Data Visualization goals

Data visualization refers to the **techniques used to communicate data or information** by encoding it as **visual objects contained in graphics**.

The goal is to **communicate information clearly and efficiently to users**. It is also one of the steps in data analysis or data science:

*The main goal of data visualization is to **communicate information clearly and effectively** through graphical means.*

*It doesn't mean that data visualization needs to look boring to be functional or extremely sophisticated to look beautiful. To convey ideas effectively, **both aesthetic form and functionality need to go hand in hand**, providing insights into a rather sparse and complex data set by **communicating its key-aspects in a more intuitive way**.*

Yet, designers often fail to achieve a balance between form and function, creating gorgeous data visualizations which fail to serve their main purpose — to communicate information.

Friedman, *Data Visualization and Infographics*, 2008

Obs: however, an ideal visualization should not only communicate clearly, but stimulate viewer engagement and attention.

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The current main issue

Graphical visualizations began as a mean to communicate numbers and quantities.

But, information visualizations are also executing particular analytical tasks such as **making comparisons** or **determining causality**.

The design principle of the information graphic should **support that analytical task**, showing the comparison or causality.

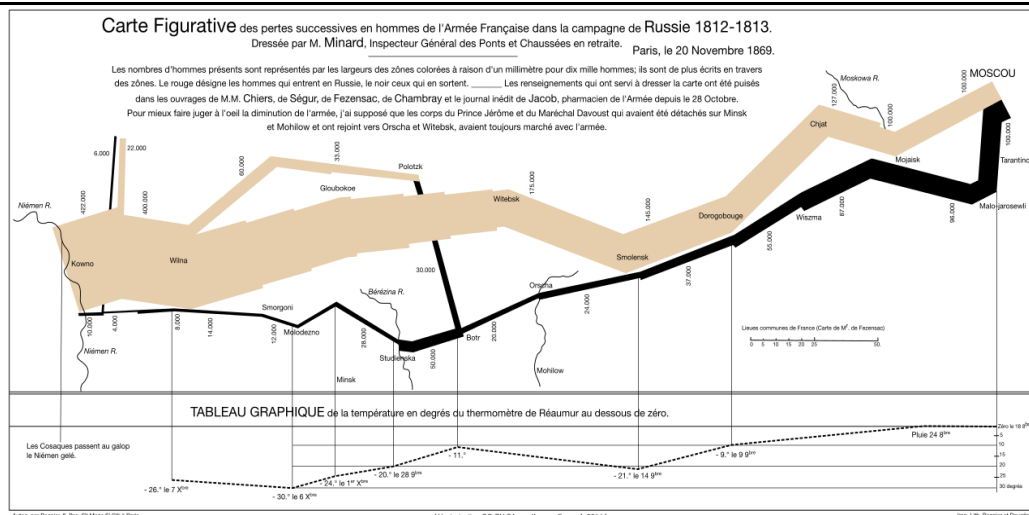
However, more than often this doesn't happen with many graphics...

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Graphical displays should

- **Show the data**
- Induce the viewer to think about the **substance** rather than about the methodology, the graphic design, or even the technology of graphic production
- Present many numbers in a **small space**
- **Avoid distorting** what the data has to “say”
- Make **large data sets coherent**
- Encourage the eye to **compare different pieces** of data
- Reveal the data at **several levels of detail**, from a broad overview to the fine structure
- Serve a **clear purpose**: description, exploration, tabulation or decoration
- Be closely **integrated with the statistical and verbal** descriptions of a data set.

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The **Minard diagram** shows the losses suffered by Napoleon's army in the 1812–1813 period. Six variables are plotted: the size of the army, its location on a two-dimensional surface, time, direction of movement, and temperature. The line width illustrates a comparison (size of the army at points in time) while the temperature axis suggests a cause of the change in army size. This multivariate display on a two-dimensional surface tells a story that can be grasped immediately while identifying the source data to build credibility.

[Tufte wrote in 1983 that: “It may well be the best statistical graphic ever drawn.”]

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Quantitative Information Types

- Simple Quantities
- Time-series
- Rankings
- Part-to-whole
- Deviation
- Frequency distribution
- Correlation
- Nominal comparison
- Geographic or geospatial

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Taxonomies for visual representation of data quantities

Christian Behrens, 2008

Correlations



Scatterplot



Bubble chart

Continuous Quantities



Simple line chart



Multiset line chart



Stacked area chart



Sparklines

Discrete Quantities



Simple bar chart



Multiset bar chart



Dot matrix



Stacked bar chart



Isometric bar chart



Span chart

Proportions



Simple pie chart



Ring chart

Flows



Sankey diagram



Thread arcs

Hierarchies



Tree diagram



Treemap

Networks



Tree diagram



Relation circle



Pearl necklet

Space



Topographic map



Thematic map

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Some current techniques

Abstract structures

- **Proportions:** pie chart and ring chart
- **Correlations:** scatterplot, bubble chart
- **Discrete quantities:**
 - bar chart, dot matrix, stacked bar charts
- **Continuous quantities:**
 - line chart, stacked chart, sparklines
- **Multidimensional:** parallel coordinates

Hierarchical structures: trees

- **Node-link layout** (cartesian and polar)
- **Treemaps:** rectangular, circular and Voronoi
- **Sunburst.**

Relational structures: networks

- **Node-link diagrams**
- **Layouts:** matrix, linear, force directed, Sankey, circular, polar, geographical

Temporal structures

- **Timelines:** linear and polar
- **Flows** (Sankey diagrams)

Spatial structures: maps

- **Dot distribution maps**
- **Isometric maps:** isolines and heatmaps
- **Choropleth maps**
- **Magnification and fish-eye views**
- **Cartograms:** Dorling's, area-value, isochronic

Temporal structures

- **Animated maps**
- **Representation of trajectories**
- **Temporal flows**

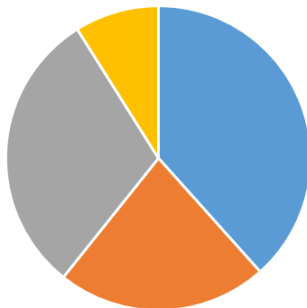
Textual structures

- **Word clouds**
- **Textual trees**

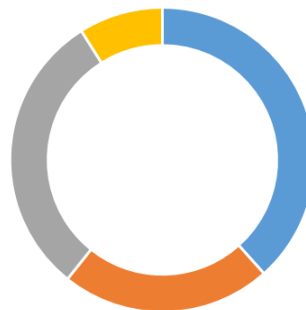
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Proportions

Pie Chart

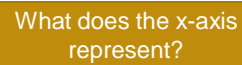


Ring Chart



When to avoid?

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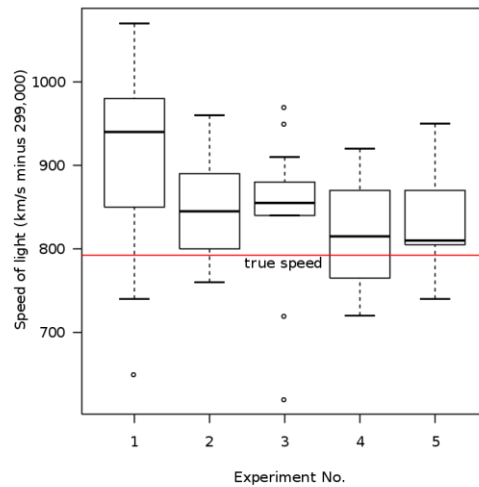
[illegible]

This bubble chart illustrates the relationship between the rate of murders and burglaries per 100,000 population across different US states. The X-axis represents the murder rate, and the Y-axis represents the burglary rate. The size of each bubble corresponds to the state's population. The chart shows a positive correlation, with states like Texas, California, and North Carolina having high rates in both categories.

State	Murders per 100,000 population (X)	Burglaries per 100,000 population (Y)	Relative Population Size
North Ca	6.5	1200	Large
Texas	6.0	950	Very Large
California	6.5	750	Very Large
Missouri	6.5	750	Large
Florida	5.0	900	Large
Ohio	5.0	850	Large
Washington	3.5	950	Large
Illinois	6.0	600	Large
Michigan	6.0	700	Large
Indiana	6.0	700	Large
Virginia	6.5	400	Large
Pennsylvania	6.5	450	Large
New York	4.0	350	Very Large
North Carolina	1.5	250	Small
South Carolina	2.0	250	Small
Montana	1.5	400	Small
Utah	2.0	550	Small
Idaho	2.0	550	Small
Wyoming	2.5	450	Small
Connecticut	2.5	450	Small
Wisconsin	3.0	450	Small
Rhode Island	3.0	450	Small
Delaware	4.0	700	Small
Kansas	3.5	700	Small
Colorado	3.5	750	Small
Oklahoma	5.0	1000	Small
Arkansas	6.0	1050	Small
New Mexico	7.0	1050	Small
Tennessee	7.0	1000	Small
South Carolina	7.0	1000	Small
Alabama	8.0	950	Small
Nevada	8.5	950	Small
Mississippi	7.5	900	Small
Louisiana	9.5	850	Small
Maryland	9.5	650	Small
Iowa	1.5	550	Small
Minnesota	2.0	550	Small
Nebraska	2.0	550	Small
North Dakota	1.5	250	Small
South Dakota	2.0	250	Small
West Virginia	4.0	550	Small
District of Columbia	5.0	550	Small
New Jersey	4.5	350	Small
Delaware	4.0	700	Small
Kansas	3.5	700	Small
Colorado	3.5	750	Small
Oklahoma	5.0	1000	Small
Arkansas	6.0	1050	Small
New Mexico	7.0	1050	Small
Tennessee	7.0	1000	Small
South Carolina	7.0	1000	Small
Alabama	8.0	950	Small
Nevada	8.5	950	Small
Mississippi	7.5	900	Small
Louisiana	9.5	850	Small
Maryland	9.5	650	Small
Iowa	1.5	550	Small
Minnesota	2.0	550	Small
Nebraska	2.0	550	Small
North Dakota	1.5	250	Small
South Dakota	2.0	250	Small
West Virginia	4.0	550	Small
District of Columbia	5.0	550	Small
New Jersey	4.5	350	Small

How many properties must have each record in this chart?

Box Plot



Can you explain a box plot?

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Waterfall graphs



A waterfall chart helps in understanding the cumulative effect on the initial value which is increased or decreased by a series of intermediate values leading to a final value

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Continuous quantities and Sparklines

Tufte's (Tufte, 2006) own Sparklines are **data-intense**, **design-simple**, **word-sized graphics**. Sparklines, can **display the temporal evolution of variables**, its most recent value, its name and the out-of-the-norm values, **everything in a highly condensed graphic**.

Obs: Sparklines can run in a text layout.

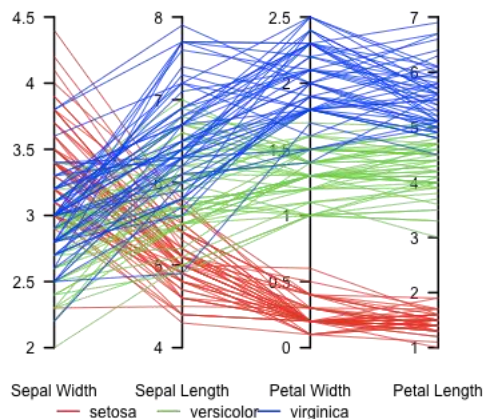
Region	magnitude_trend	count	avg(Magnitude)
1 Fox Islands, Aleutian Islands, Alaska		14	3.271429
2 Island of Hawaii, Hawaii		14	3.035714
3 Puerto Rico region		14	3.035714
4 Southern Alaska		10	2.880000
5 Andreanof Islands, Aleutian Islands, Alaska		8	2.712500
6 Central California		8	2.925000
7 Baja California, Mexico		7	2.957143
8 Virgin Islands region		7	3.185714
9 Kodiak Island region, Alaska		6	2.733333
10 Central Alaska		5	2.920000

Note: the aspect ratio of line chart or a sparkline are crucial for good reading. The visual average of the hill-slopes within the line should be ideally 45 degrees.

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Multidimensions and Parallel Coordinates

Parallel coordinate plot, Fisher's Iris data

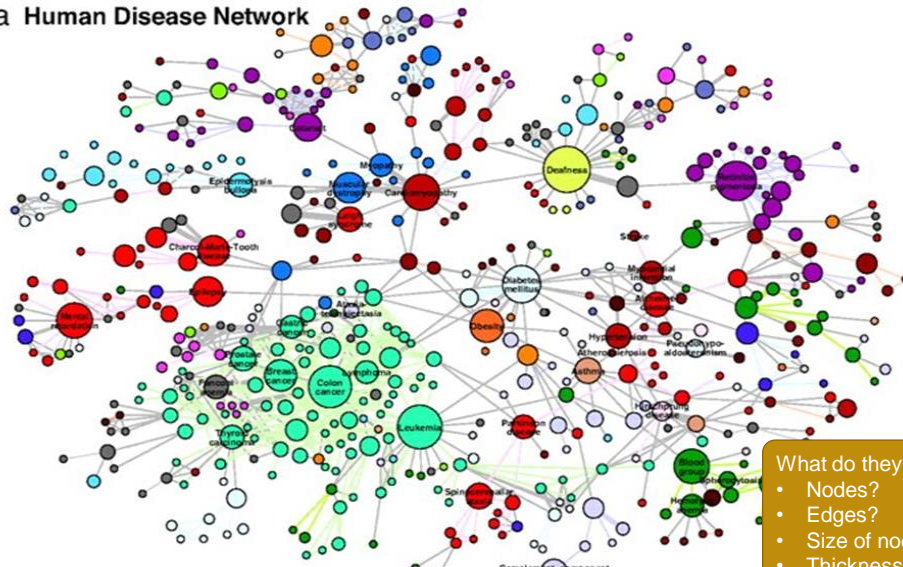


Parallel coordinates can be arranged in order to show certain correlations among attributes for the same type of object

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Relational structures: networks

a Human Disease Network



source: Goh et al. The human disease network

What do they represent:

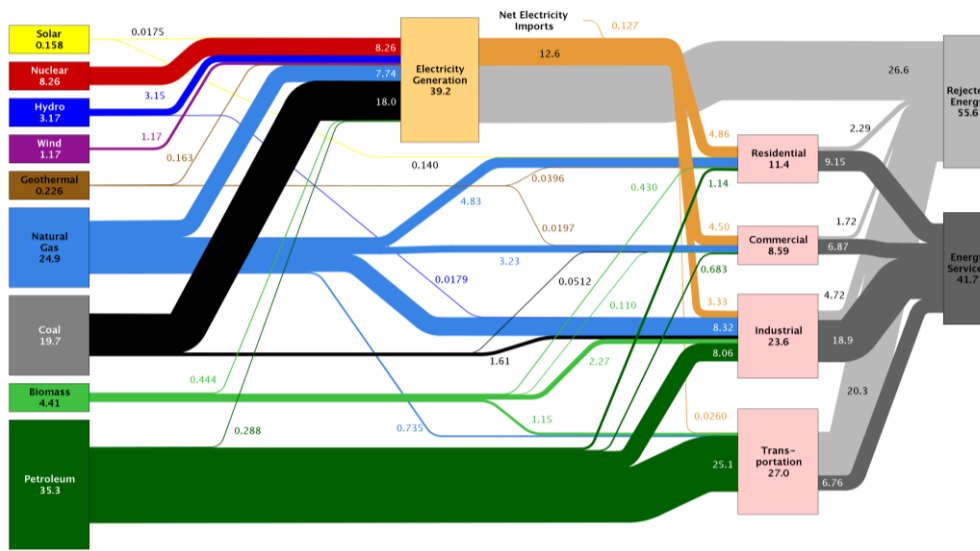
- Nodes?
- Edges?
- Size of nodes?
- Thickness of edges?

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Relational structures: Sankey diagrams

Estimated U.S. Energy Use in 2011: ~97.3 Quads

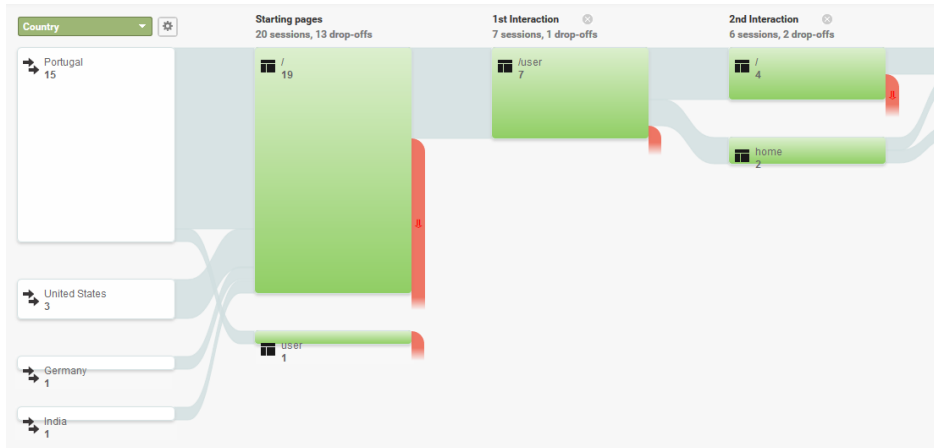
Lawrence Livermore
National Laboratory



Source: LLNL 2012. Data is based on DOE/EIA-0384(2011), October, 2012. If this information or a reproduction of it is used, credit must be given to the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and the Department of Energy, under whose auspices the work was performed. Distributed electricity represents only retail electricity sales and does not include self-generation. EIA reports flows for non-thermal resources (i.e., hydro, wind and solar) in BTU-equivalent values by assuming a typical fossil fuel plant "heat rate." The efficiency of electricity production is calculated as the total retail electricity delivered divided by the primary energy input into electricity generation. End use efficiency is estimated as 80% for the residential, commercial and industrial sectors, and as 25% for the transportation sector. Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding. LLNL-MI-410527.

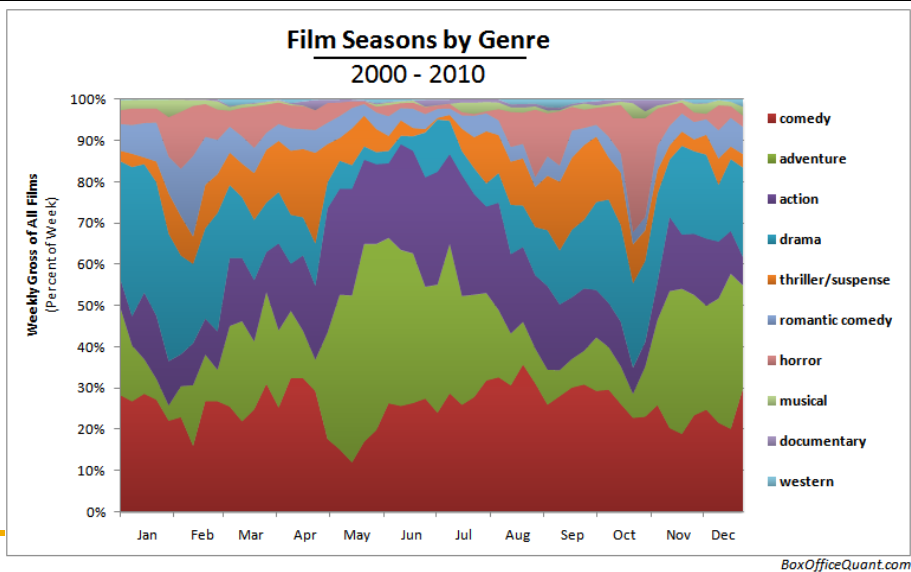
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Relational structures: Sankey diagrams



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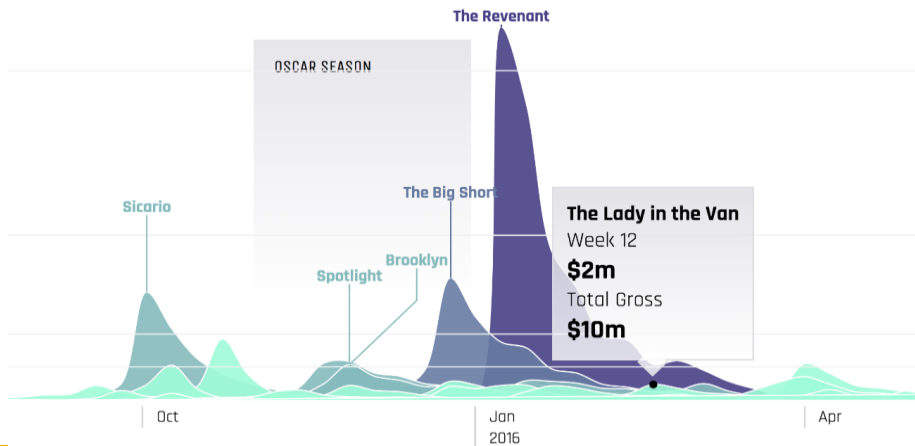
Time series: stacked graphs



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Filled regions

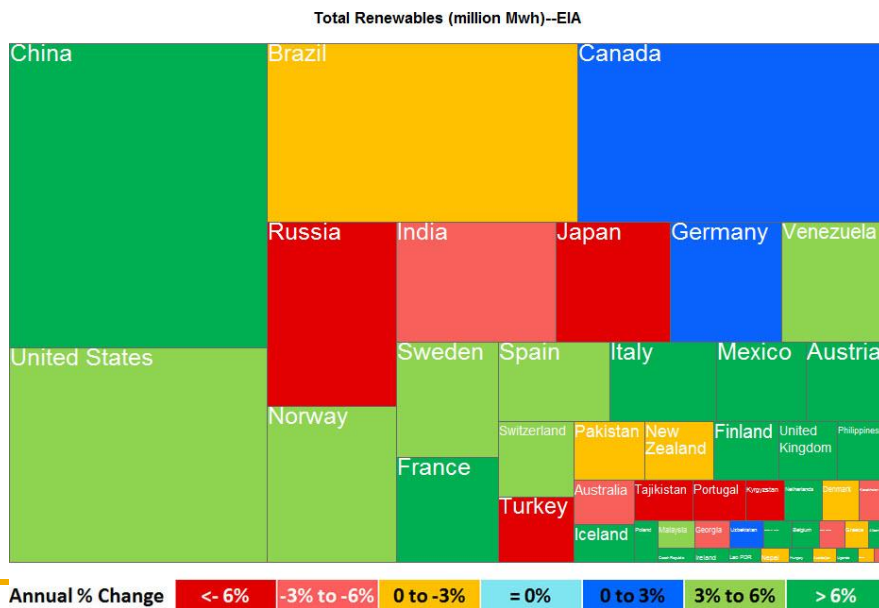
This is just a
teaser for
you all...



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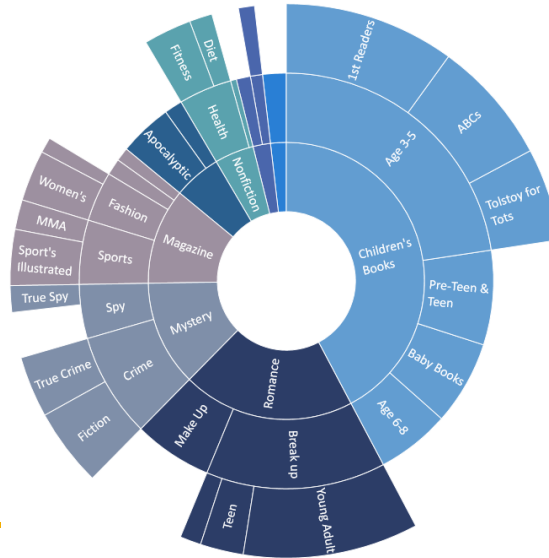
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Hierarchies: Treemaps



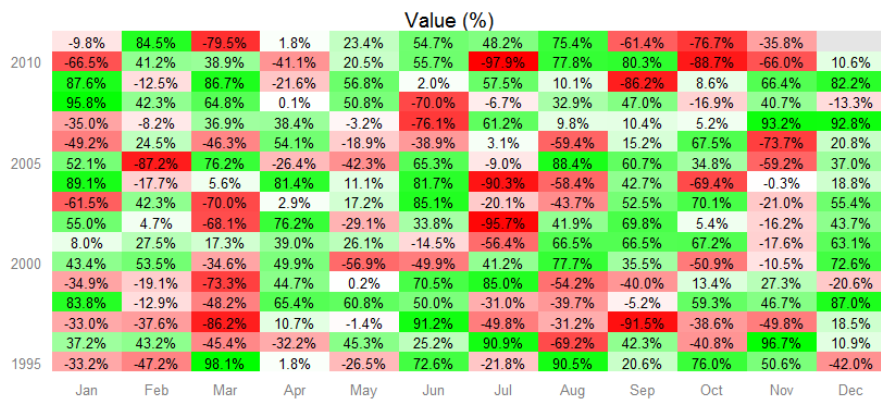
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Hierarchies: circular treemaps



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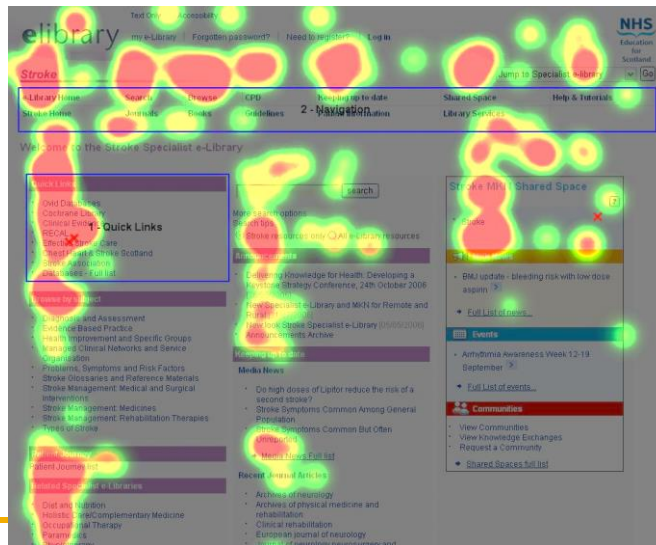
Heatmaps



What's the meaning of the colors?

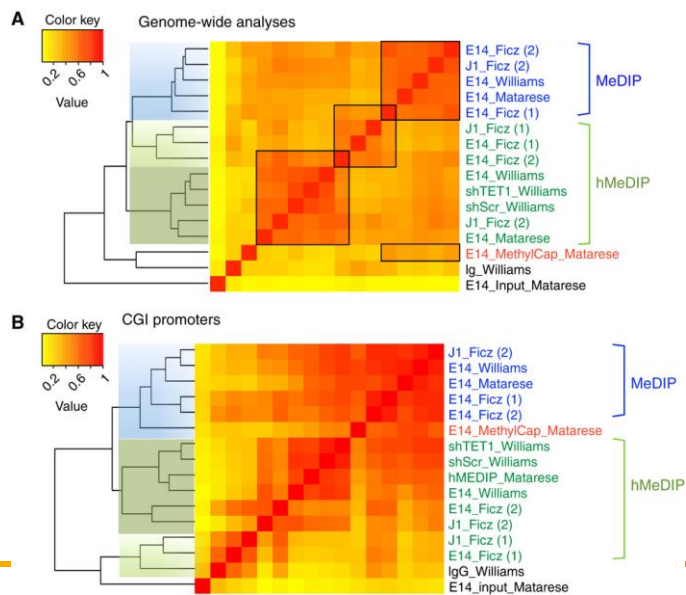
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Heatmaps



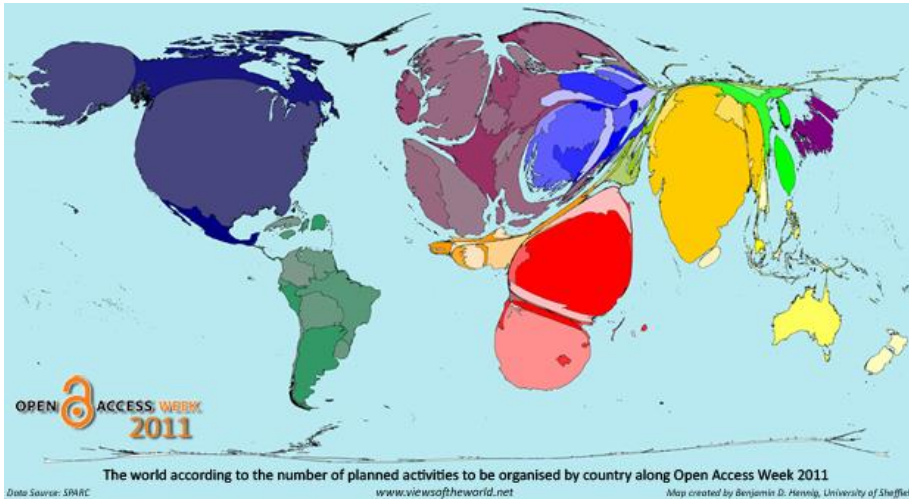
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Heatmaps with trees



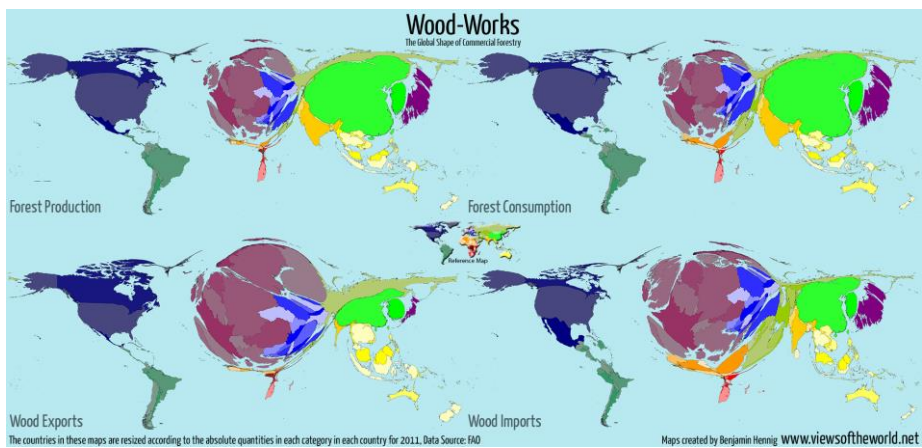
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Maps and area cartograms



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Maps and area cartograms

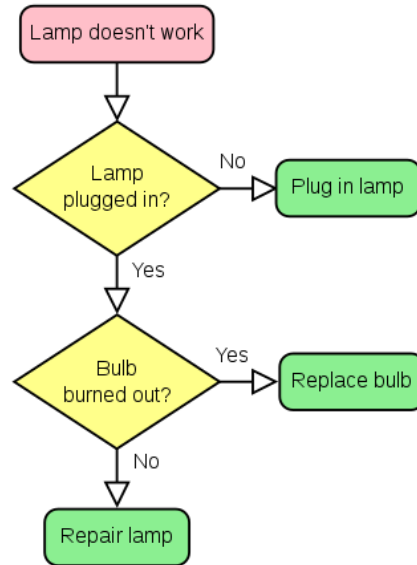


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[illegible]

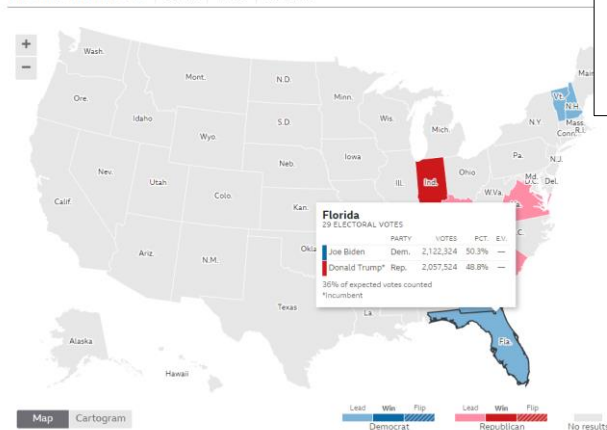
Algorithmic Flow Charts



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Recently, we have seen incredible, big data, real-time, dashboards

Presidential race

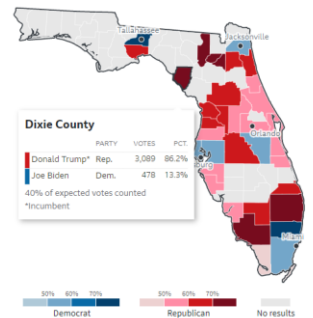


Presidential race

	PARTY	VOTES	PCT.
Donald Trump*	Republican	2,650,752	50.2%
Joe Biden	Democrat	2,583,125	48.9%
Jo Jorgensen	Libertarian	27,719	0.5%
Write-ins	Write-in	6,954	0.1%
Howie Hawkins	Green	6,013	0.1%
Rocky De La Fuente	Alliance	3,218	0.1%
Gloria La Riva	Socialism and Liberation	2,413	0.0%
Don Blankenship	Constitution	1,690	0.0%

45% of expected votes counted

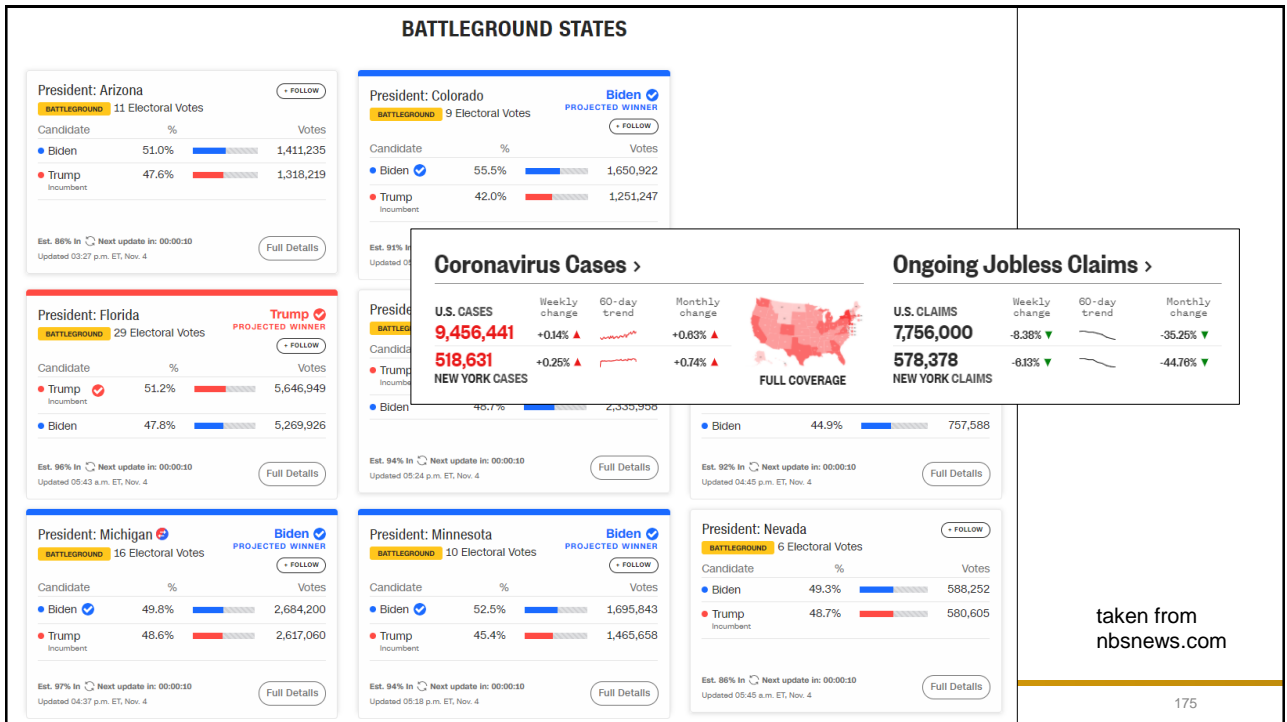
*Incumbent



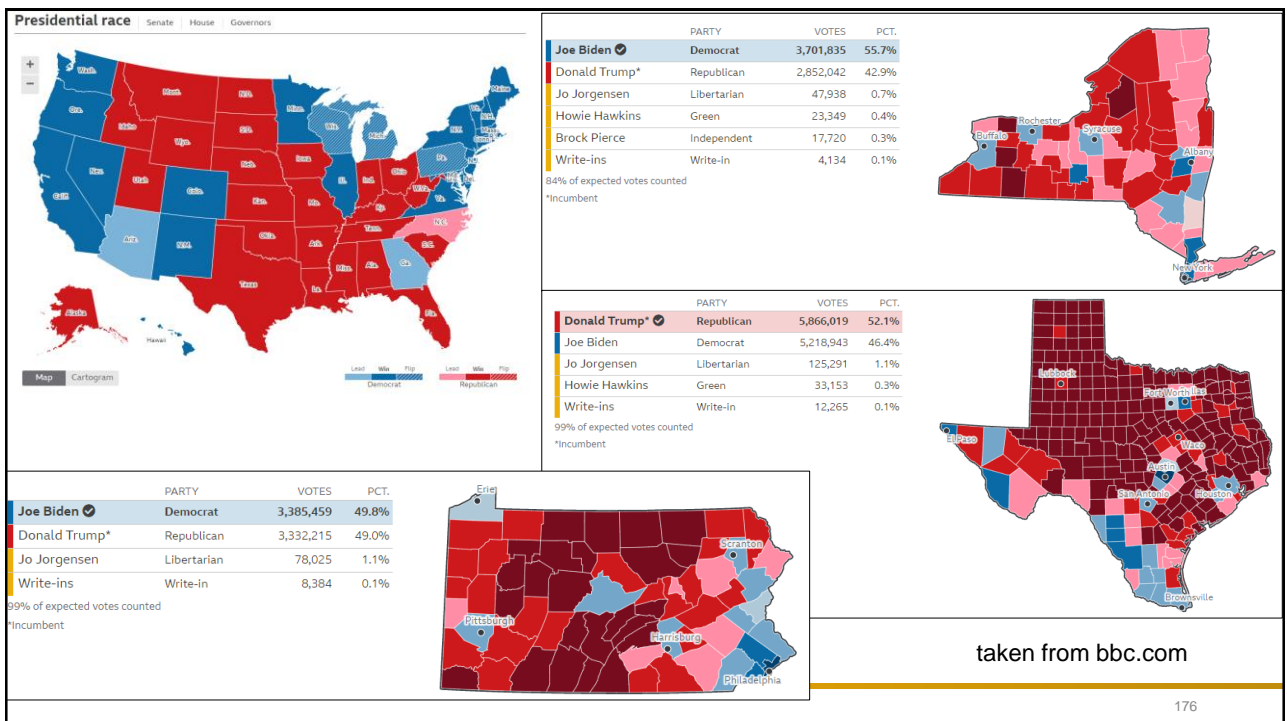
taken from bbc.com

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<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/11/03/us/elections/results-president.html>

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