



Universidade de Aveiro
Departamento de Electrónica,
Telecomunicações e Informática

Information Visualization course 2023

Introduction



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What is Visualization?

- Visualization is a field of Computing focused on how to **visually represent and explore large amounts of data**
- Taking advantage of the **human visual system capacities**
- Providing “**insights**” concerning the phenomenon behind the data

What it **is not**:

- just “pretty pictures”!

This course:

- an introduction to: Data and Information Visualization
Computer Graphics
- Information Visualization

Course web page: <http://sweet.ua.pt/bss/courses/InfoVis/IV-home.htm>

all materials are available in Moodle

Outline:

Introduction to Data and Information Visualization

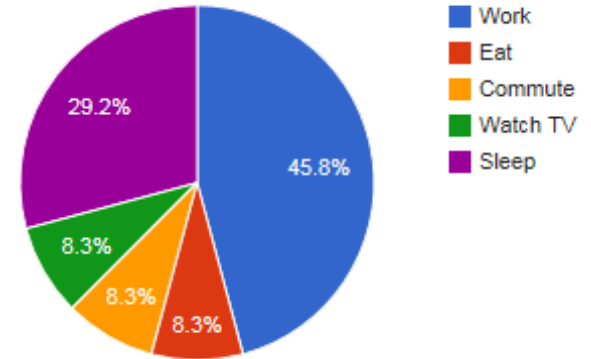
Information Visualization:

- Main issues
- Data and Design
- Representation
- Presentation
- Interaction
- Evaluation

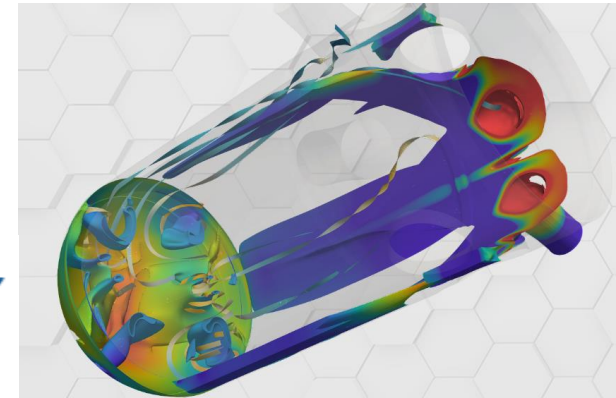
Introduction to Computer graphics:

- Primitives, Geometric transformations (2D, 3D) and Visualization (2D, 3D)
- Introduction to visibility, illumination, surface rendering and color models

In Lab Classes we will use



- Visualization: Google Charts, D3
- Computer Graphics: SVG, Three.js, VTK



Data-Driven Documents

three.js ^{r70}[examples, more](#)

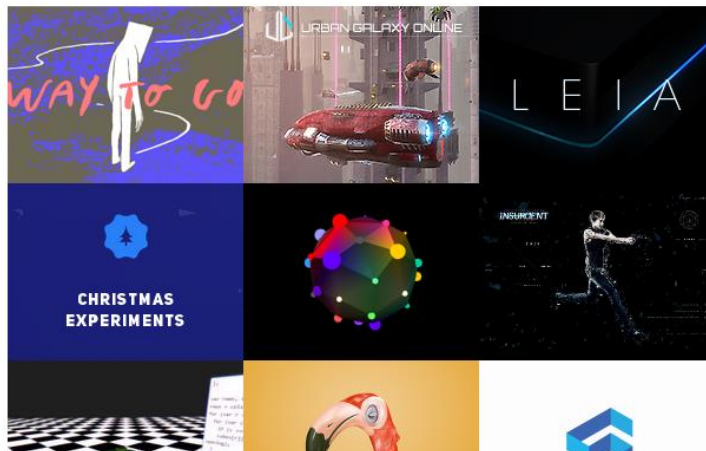
download, cdn

- getting started
- documentation
- google+
- chat
- help

- github
- contributors
- wiki
- issues

editor (beta)

featured projects



Sessions

(subject to minor adjustments)

1 - Introduction to the course and to DataVis and InfoVis

1Lab – Introduction to Labs

2 - Introduction to DataVis and InfoVis

2Lab – Introduction to Google Tool Charts

3 – Main issues in InfoVis (Data and Design cycle) (select a paper)

3Lab – Evaluation of a Vis application

4 - Representation: coding of value

4Lab – Introduction to SVG (mini-project topics)

5 - Evaluation methods + Paper presentation

5 Lab -Introduction to D3.js

6 – Representation: coding relation + Paper presentation

6Lab – Introduction to D3.js – (select a mini-project topic)

7 – Follow-up of the mini-project

7Lab - mockup evaluation

8 – Presentation + Paper presentation

8Lab - D3.js; mini-project

9 - Interaction + Paper Presentation

9Lab – D3.js mini-project

10 – Introduction to Computer Graphics + Paper presentation

10Lab – D3.js; mini-project

11 - Presentation and demo of the mini-project

11Lab – Presentation and demo of the mini-project

12 – Introduction to Computer Graphics + Paper presentation (Select CG assignment)

12Lab – Introduction to Three.js

13 – Introduction to Computer Graphics + Paper presentation

13Lab – Three.js exercises, CG assignment

14 – Introduction to Computer Graphics + Paper presentation

14Lab – Three.js exercises, CG assignment

Dates to submit CG assignment TBA

Assessment

- Exam – 40%
- Mini-project - design, implementation and evaluation of a visual data exploration application – 40% (groups of two students)
- Computer Graphics assignment – 10%
- Paper presentation – 10% (groups of two students)

Notice: Working Students must contact paulo.dias@ua.pt until **October 2** to discuss their practical assessment deadlines

Assignments

- Are performed in groups of two students
- Paper presentation
9/Oct/2023 – select a paper and a presentation date (links in Moodle)
- Design, implementation and evaluation of a Visual Data Exploration application using UCD, with the following deliverables:
18, 23/Oct/2023 - select a topic
LFP usability test
Follow-up – presentation and submission of
requirement analysis and proposed design (15 slides)
Presentation and demo of the application
date TBA – submission of the application
- Computer Graphics exercises
date TBA - submission of Three.js exercises

Design and implementation of a Visual Data Exploration Application Using a Human-Centered approach:

- Select a Data set to visualize
- Characterize target users, scenarios and identify interesting questions
- Propose a conceptual model for the application (including visualization idioms and interaction styles)
- Develop and evaluate a low fidelity prototype with users
- Develop the application using D3 (or other platform, subject to approval)
- Evaluate the application using at least an analytical method

Analyzing and presenting a paper:



- Each group of two students must:
- Select an **InfoVis** long paper from:
 - [IEEEVis2022](#)
 - [EuroVis2023](#)
 - Or from another recent conference or journal issue (subject to approval)
- Propose it until **9/Oct/2023 to bss@ua.pt**
Indicating preferences concerning presentation date
- Read the [presentation guidelines](#)
- Make a presentation and submit the slides



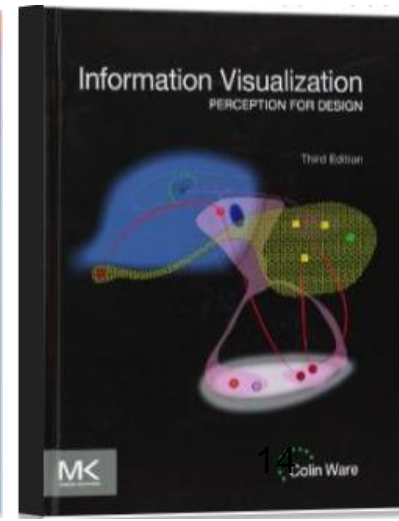
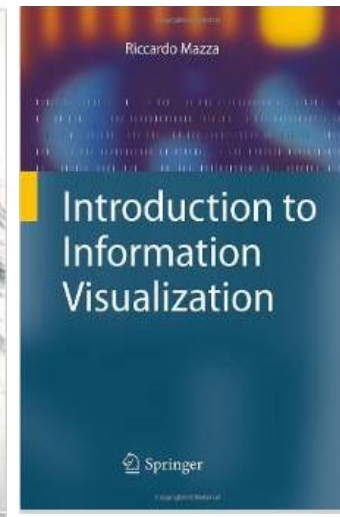
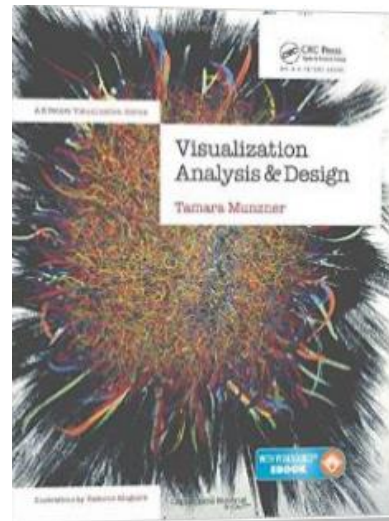
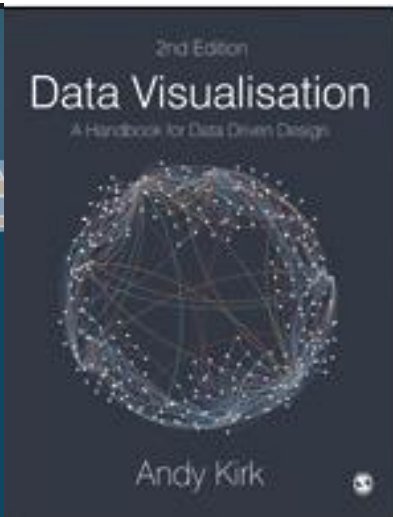
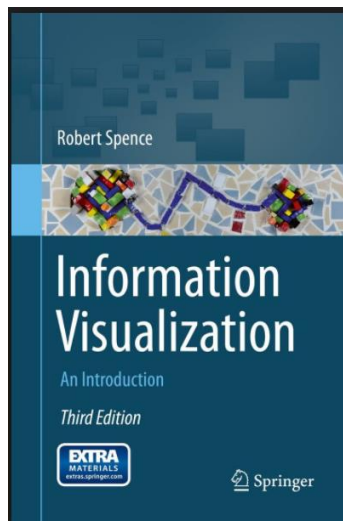
Help:

Laramée, R. S. (2011). How to Read a Visualization Research Paper: Extracting the Essentials. *IEEE Computer Graphics and Applications*, May/June, 78–82.

<https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/5754296>

Main Bibliography - Visualization

- Spence, R., *Information Visualization, An Introduction*, Springer, 2014
- Munzner, T., *Visualization Analysis and Design*, A K Peters/CRC Press, 2014
- Kirk, A., *Data Visualisation A Handbook for Data Driven Design*, 2nd. Ed., Sage, 2019
- Mazza, R., *Introduction to Information Visualization*, Springer, 2009
- Ware, C., *Information Visualization, Perception to Design*, 3rd ed., Morgan Kaufmann, 2012
- Explore other books available at the playlist:
<https://learning.oreilly.com/playlists/74bfec5e-4346-48ff-82b4-657fda6922b6>



Other Bibliography

- Spence, R., *Information Visualization, Design for Interaction*, 2nd ed., Prentice Hall, 2007
- Kirk, A., *Data Visualization: A successful design process*, Pack Publishing, 2012
https://books.google.pt/books/about/Data_Visualization.html?id=I4qBVLfD3t4C&prints_ec=frontcover&source=kp_read_button&redir_esc=y#v=onepage&q&f=false
- Bederson, B. , B. Shneiderman, *The Craft of Information Visualization: Readings and Reflections*, Morgan Kaufmann, 2003
- Card, S., J. Mackinlay, and B. Shneiderman, *Readings in Information Visualization: Using Vision to Think*, Morgan Kaufmann, 1999
- Keim, D., Kohlhammer, J., Ellis, G., & Mansmann, F., *Solving problems with Visual Analytics*, Eurographics, 2012
- Keim, D., Rossi, F., Seidl, T., Verleysen, M., & Wrobel, S. (2012). *Information Visualization, Visual Data Mining and Machine Learning* (Dagstuhl Seminar 12081). Dagstuhl Reports, 2(2), 58–83. <http://doi.org/10.4230/DagRep.2.2.58>

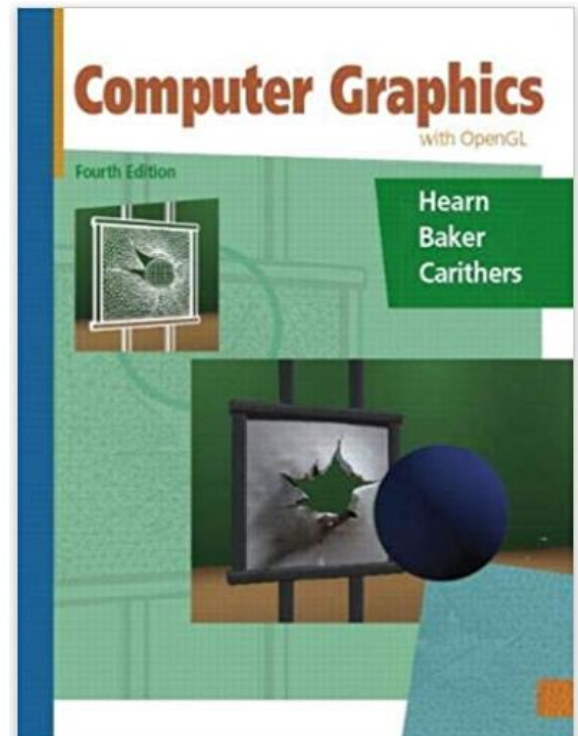
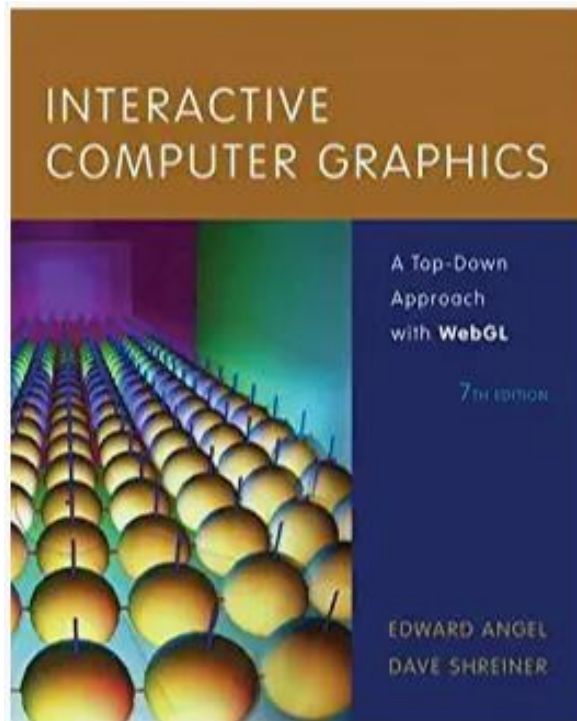
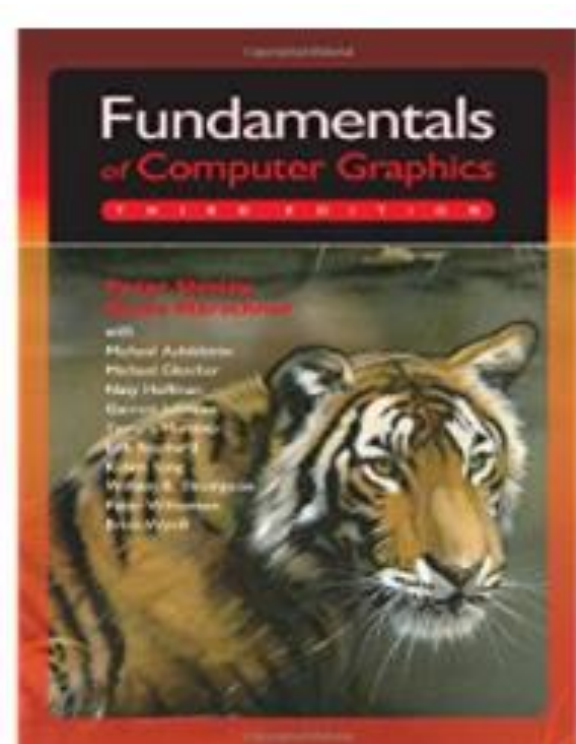
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Other Bibliography

- Bederson, B. , B. Shneiderman, *The Craft of Information Visualization: Readings and Reflections*, Morgan Kaufmann, 2003
- Card, S., J. Mackinlay, and B. Shneiderman, *Readings in Information Visualization: Using Vision to Think*, Morgan Kaufmann, 1999
- Tufte, E., *The Visual Display of Quantitative Information*, Graphics Press, 1983
- Tufte, E., *Envisioning Information*, Graphics Press, 1990
- Friendly, M., "[Milestones in the history of thematic cartography, statistical graphics, and data visualization](#)", 2009
- Few, S., "Data Visualization for Human Perception". In: Soegaard, M. and Dam, R. (eds.). *The Encyclopedia of Human-Computer Interaction*, 2nd Ed. The Interaction Design Foundation https://www.interaction-design.org/encyclopedia/data_visualization_for_human_perception.html
- Keim, D., Rossi, F., Seidl, T., Verleysen, M., & Wrobel, S. (2012). *Information Visualization, Visual Data Mining and Machine Learning* (Dagstuhl Seminar 12081). Dagstuhl Reports, 2(2), 58–83. <http://doi.org/10.4230/DagRep.2.2.58>
- Heer, J., M. Bostock, M., & V. Ogievetsky,. "A tour through the visualization zoo". *Communications of the ACM*, vol 53, no. 6, pp. 59-79, 2010.

Bibliography – Computer Graphics

- Shirley, P. M. Ashikhmin, S. Marschner, *Fundamentals of Computer Graphics*, 3rd Edition, 3rd ed., A K Peters/CRC Press, 2021
- Angel, E., D. Shreiner, *Interactive Computer Graphics: A Top-Down Approach with WebGL*, 7th ed, Pearson, 2014
- Hearn, D., M. P. Baker, W. Carithers, *Computer Graphics with OpenGL*, 4th ed., Prentice Hall, 2010



To probe further Scientific Journals/Conferences

IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics

IEEE Computer Graphics and Applications

Computer Graphics Forum

Computers and Graphics

Information Visualization



IEEE Vis (<http://ieevis.org/>)

Eurovis

A selection of Visualization books to read online:

<https://learning.oreilly.com/playlists/f68d0022-1b58-4374-9af5-280d221d4c7e/>

On-line courses

Information Visualization - NYU



<https://www.coursera.org/specializations/information-visualization>

Data Visualization and D3.js



<https://www.udacity.com/course/data-visualization-and-d3js--ud507>

Interactive 3D Graphics, by Eric Haines

<https://www.udacity.com/course/interactive-3d-graphics--cs291>

**Interactive
3D Graphics**

Taught by Eric Haines



UDACITY

Interesting links

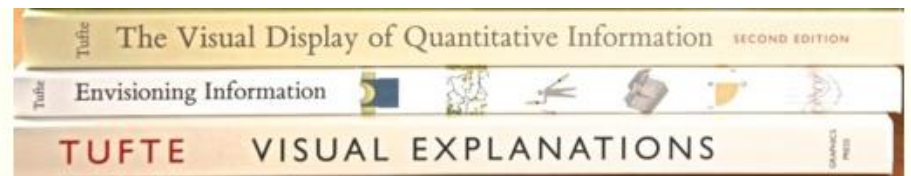
- <http://www.infovis-wiki.net/>
- <https://eagereyes.org/>
- <http://www.perceptualedge.com/>
- <http://www.thefunctionalart.com/>
- <https://www.edwardtufte.com/tufte>



@agereyes



Visual Business Intelligence
for enlightening analysis and communication



Interesting links



- <https://medium.com/multiple-views-visualization-research-explained>

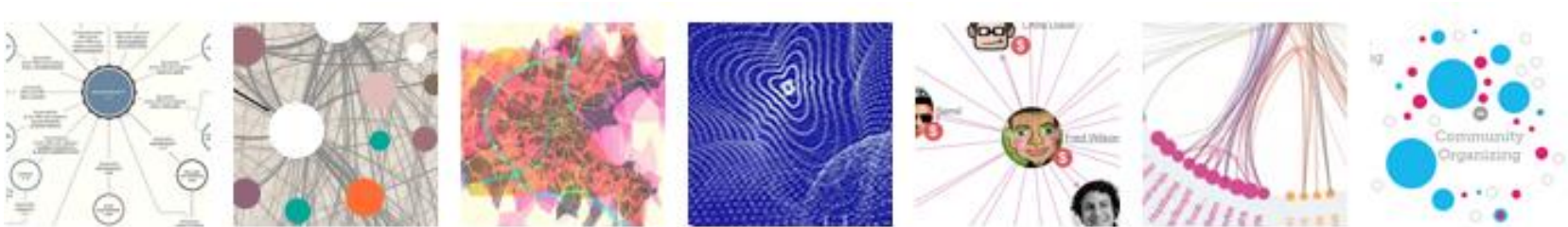
- <http://seeingdata.org/>



- <https://flowingdata.com/about>



- <http://www.visualcomplexity.com/vc/>



Visualization Tools

- There are a lot, of different types and with different purposes

(see e.g. <http://selection.datavisualization.ch/>)

+ DATAVISUALIZATION.CH

SELECTED TOOLS

Search...

All

Maps

Charts


Data

Color

Code?


✓

➤




Arbor.js

A library of force-directed layout algorithms plus abstractions for graph organization and refresh handling.




CartoDB

A web service for mapping, analyzing and building applications with data.




Chroma.js

Interactive color space explorer that allows to preview a set of linear interpolated equidistant colors.



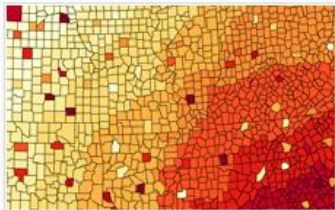
Circos

A software package for visualizing data in a circular layout.



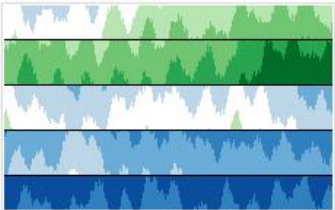
Cola.js

A library for arranging networks using constraint-based optimization techniques.



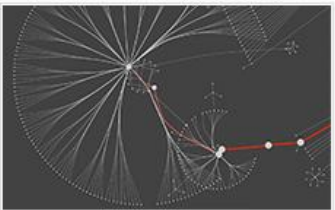
ColorBrewer

A web tool for selecting colors for maps.



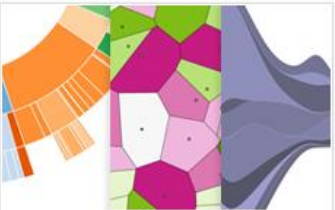
Cubism.js

A library for creating interactive time series and horizon graphs based on D3.js



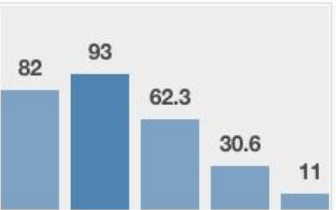
Cytoscape

An application for visualizing complex networks and integrating these with any type of attribute data.



D3.js

An small, flexible and efficient library to create and manipulate interactive documents based on data.



Dance.js

A simple data-driven visualization framework based on Data.js and Underscore.js

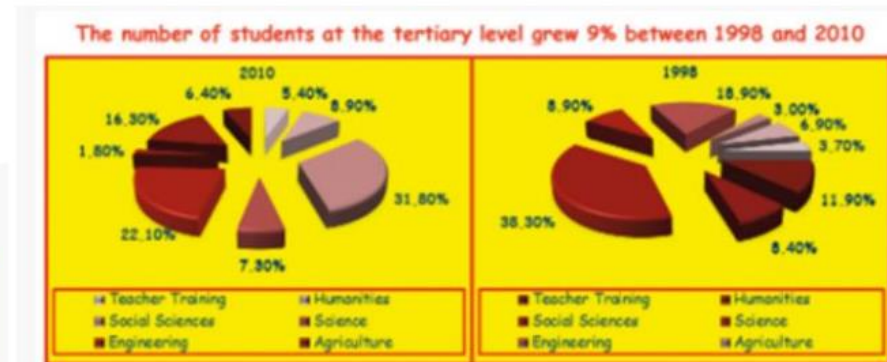
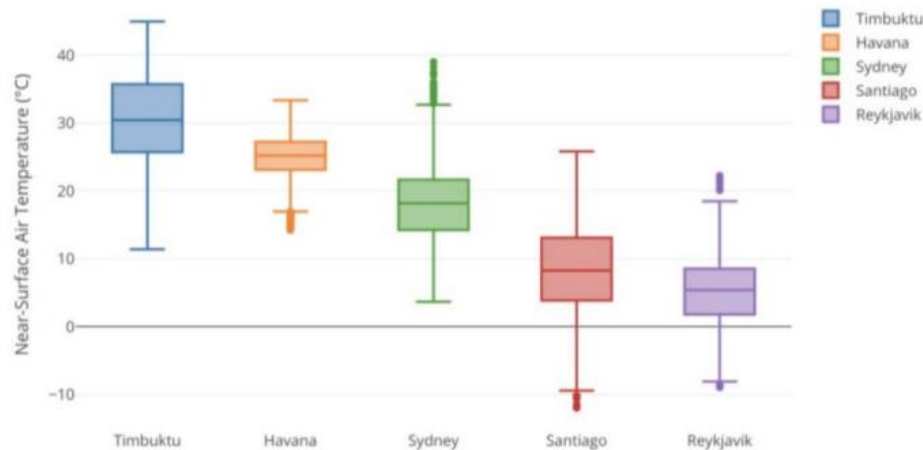
2023 Gartner Magic Quadrant for Analytics and Business Intelligence Platforms



Visualization Literacy Quiz

Visualization Literacy Quiz

Does this type of data representation look at all familiar?



Choose one of the following answers

not at all familiar

not familiar

reasonably familiar

very familiar

- <https://forms.ua.pt/index.php?r=survey/index&sid=127657&lang=en>