UDACITY

Make Effective Data Visualization

A part of the Data Analyst Nanodegree Program

PROJECT REVIEW

CODE REVIEW   1

NOTES

SHARE YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENT!

Meets Specifications

Dear Student,

Congratulations on an outstanding project! It is amazing what you were able to do all that using d3.js alone, without using higher level packages such as dimple.js and d3plus. The theme is also very interesting, I spend a few good minutes exploring your visualization out of curiosity.

When you are ready, publish it in your blog or portfolio, and share it with friends and family. Data visualization is centered at the reader, and the iterative process of collecting feedback and enhancing the visualization is a required step in every data visualization project, no matter how experienced the analyst is. Make sure to build your visualizations step by step, always aiming to improve your reader's experience.

And keep practicing! Look for visualizations whenever possible and critique the choice of plot, visual encodings, color palette, and aspects of communications. This will help you practice what you learned in the course and make you always ready for the next data viz project.

Best of luck in the remaining projects, you are on the right track to be a superb data analyst!

Code Structure and Functionality

The visualization renders and any interactions or animations work as the reader interacts with the visualization.

Great job, awesome looking visualization!

Large code chunks are commented and all complex code is adequately explained with comments. Comments are not overused to explain obvious code.

Code well commented, easy to follow.

The code uses formatting techniques in a consistent and effective manner to improve code readability.

Great job with the code structure, is well indented and easy to read.

Visualization is Explanatory

The visualization centers on a specific, clear finding in the data.

Awesome job! Although one could argue the visualization is still mostly exploratory, using a martini-glass structure visualization you managed to direct the reader's focus to the fact most of edX students are not US based, even though the courses are mostly in English.

The selected finding is clearly communicated. Design choices foster communication between the reader and the visualization.

Excellent!

Some tips on how to improve:

- I could see you had some issues with positioning, the elements don't see all properly aligned. Use a grid system like bootstrap or foundation can help you with that. Using a grid system will also ensure the design is responsive. As it is, you need at least 1600px wide resolution to render the data viz, which is too large; ~1300px is a good min width if you are aiming for large screen sizes.
- Using a CSS framework will also help you with the design of visual elements, a few of them like the buttons look blunt. For example, you can use bootstrap pre-customized buttons to have good looking buttons with rounded corners, shadow and the proper padding.
- Really like the choice of colors in the map, it is easy to spot the difference. However the colors from the plots in the left look to similar to the blue dots, and it may give the impression are only showing data for non-native English speakers. I would suggest changing them to a more neutral color.

Design

A reader's summary of the graphic would closely match the written summary in the README.md file, or a reader would identify at least 1 main point or relationship that the graphic attempts to convey.

Awesome!

The visualization includes interaction or animation. The interaction or animation may be simple, such as a hover, tooltip, or transition. Interaction or animation enhances understanding of the data.

Great job with the martini-glass structure visualization. In the opening animation, I would suggest to increase the time it stays at each frame, it is too fast. The frame would change before I had time to read the text and visualize the plot.

Initial design decisions such as chart type, visual encodings, layout, legends, or hierarchy are included at the beginning of the Design section in the README.md file.

Great job discussing decisions. Besides plot type, remember also to discuss your design decisions in terms of variables and their visual encodings. For example, the last bar plot shows have two variables, name of the course and number of registered users. The name of the course is encoded as position in the x-axis and the number of registered users as position in the y-axis.

Feedback and Iteration

Feedback has been collected from at least three people throughout the process of creating the data visualization. The feedback is documented in the Feedback section of the README.md file.

One suggestion is to use the questions described in "Step Five" of the project description to direct the feedback from your reviewers, that will help you get richer feedbacks (in case you haven't used already, I couldn't deduce from the feedback if you've used the questions or not):

- What do you notice in the visualization?
- What questions do you have about the data?
- What relationships do you notice?
- What do you think is the main takeaway from this visualization?
- Is there something you don't understand in the graphic?

The project includes evidence that the visualization has been improved since the first sketch or the first coded version of the visualization. All of the feedback is listed in the Feedback section of the README.md file. Most design choices and changes are accounted for in the Design section of the README.md file. If no changes were made to the visualization after gathering feedback, this decision is explained.

Great job! Remember to keep track of the previous versions as well, when iterating. Although I only had access to the final visualization there is enough evidence you've went through the feedback process.

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