



plotly.js

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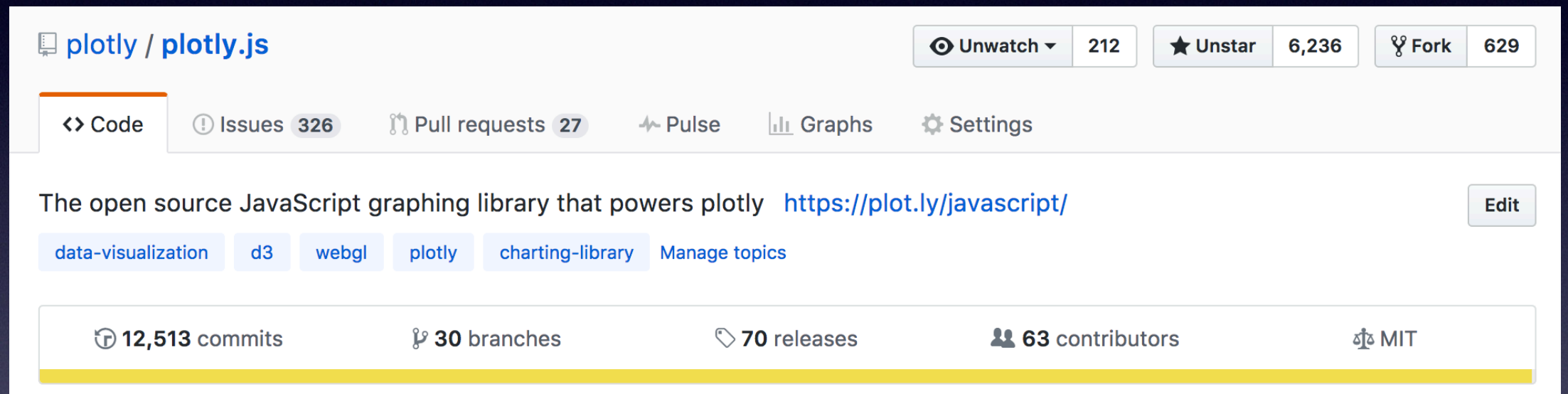
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Philosophy

- Open source
- Cross-platform
- Batteries included
- Modular
- Tested

Open source

- <https://github.com/plotly/plotly.js>



- <https://community.plot.ly/c/plotly-js>
- <https://plot.ly/javascript/>
- <https://plot.ly/javascript/reference/>

Cross-platform

- Graphs are where data is most closely connected to its meaning - so use graphs to communicate between people even in different languages
- Pure JSON declarative chart representation
- example: <https://plot.ly/~alex/2210>
- Python, R, Matlab, Julia, node/js, ... and more!

Batteries included

- Aiming for feature completeness vs. all major platform-specific sources (matplotlib, ggplot, etc)
- Will entertain pretty much any feasible application or feature request (or pull request 🥰)
- SVG (based on D3) for publication-quality graphics of moderate-sized data
- WebGL (based on stack.gl, moving to regl) for 3D and large data sets

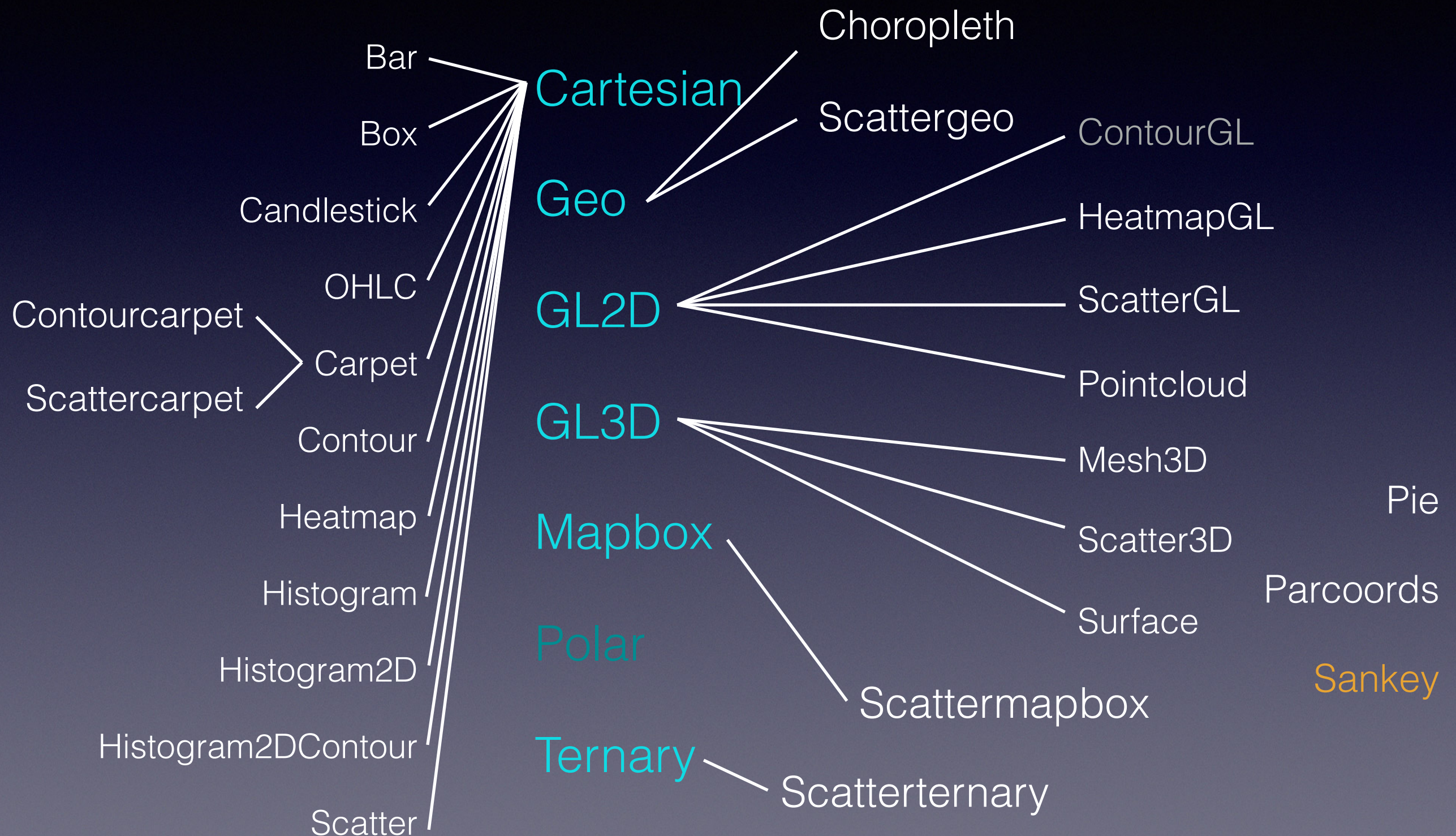
Modular

- For faster loading, use one of our smaller builds with chart types for a specific domain
- Or even make your own build with the exact trace types you need
- plot.ly always uses the full build so your charts remain portable

Tested

- 2000 test cases of code & plot behavior: creation, modification, interactions
- 400 test images ensuring pixel-perfect consistency
- No code accepted without related tests (but if you make a PR we can help)

Plot and Trace Types



Features & Components

- Axis types: Linear, Log, Category, Date (15 calendar systems)
- Multiple subplots, insets, overlaid axes
- On/off-plot components: Annotations, Images, Shapes
- Interactive components: Legend, Modebar, Range selectors & sliders, Dropdown menus & sliders
- Snapshot (png, jpg, svg) and download
- Animations

Creating a plot

`Plotly.newPlot(graphDiv, data, layout, config, frames)`

graphDiv: HTML <div> element or ID (deprecated)

data: Ordered array of trace objects. A trace represents one functional relationship - $z(x,y)$, or (x, y, size) , plus its presentation attributes

layout: All presentation info not related to a specific trace (axes, components, titles...)

config: Context-dependent flags for plot behavior

frames: Animation steps

How Plotly Makes a Plot

1. `clean` - convert old attributes to current API. Done once when new trace(s) or layout arrive. Mutates data & layout.
2. `supplyDefaults` - fill in defaults and sanitize values.
`data -> gd._fullData, layout -> gd._fullLayout`
3. `calc` - trace-dependent reshaping into JSON representing objects to draw
4. `plot` - create the relevant DOM elements
5. `style` - set presentation aspects

Modifying a plot

- **Plotly.newPlot(gd, newData, newLayout)** or mutate **gd.data** and **gd.layout** and call **Plotly.redraw(gd)** (deprecated)
 - Still the right approach if you're changing so much it's hard to describe incrementally - but for smaller changes Plotly is often able to redraw faster using the methods below
 - **gd.data** and **gd.layout** are NOT guaranteed to be the same objects you passed in originally
- **Plotly.restyle, Plotly.relayout, Plotly.update**
 - Incremental updates to data, layout, or both
- **Plotly.addTraces, Plotly.deleteTraces, Plotly.moveTraces**
 - **restyle / update** can only edit the existing items in **data**
- **Plotly.extendTraces, Plotly.prependTraces**
 - For streaming applications, add new points to the end/beginning of existing traces

Events

Most user actions on a plot generate an event prefixed with **plotly_**:

- `click`, `doubleclick`, `clickannotation`, `buttonclicked`
- `selecting`, `selected`, `deselect`
- `restyle`, `relayout`, `update`
- `beforehover`, `hover`, `unhover`
- `sliderchange`, `sliderstart`, `sliderend`
- `beforeplot`, `afterplot`, `framework`, `redraw`
- `animating`, `animated`, `animationinterrupted`
- `transitioning`, `transitioned`
- `beforeexport`, `afterexport`

```
gd.on('plotly_click', function(eventData) {  
    console.log(eventData.points);  
});
```