

GRD 610A Data Visualization II

Data Manipulation

Jenn Schilling

February 17, 2021

Today

- Data Visualization of the Week
- Discussion of Chapter 3: The Truth Continuum of *The Truthful Art* (Cairo)
- Lab on Summary statistics, grouped analysis, manipulating rows, columns and tables - Chapter 5 of *Data Visualization* (Healy)
- Homework Assignment #2
- Midterm

Discussion - The Truth Continuum

Axiom: Any visualization is a model

(Cairo, 2016, p. 69)

Coda: The more adequately a model fits whatever it stands for without being needlessly complex, and the easier it is for its intended audience to interpret correctly, the better it will be.

(Cairo, 2016, p. 70)

- How do you define a model?
- What does it mean for one model to be "better" than another?
- Do you agree or disagree with this axiom and coda? Why or why not?
- Why is it important to consider complexity, controls, and models in data visualization?

Discussion - The Truth Continuum

"It's more complicated than that."

Good visualizations shouldn't over-simplify information. They need to clarify it. In many cases, clarifying a subject requires *increasing* the amount of information, not *reducing* it.

(Cairo, 2016, p. 78)

- What does it mean to present nuance and context in data visualization? What are the implications of this on design?
- How does this relate to considering your audience when creating a data visualization?

Discussion - The Truth Continuum

Mind Bugs

Patternicity

We look for and see patterns in everything, even when they are not there.

Storytelling

We like to generalize and see cause and effect, even when it's not there.

Confirmation

We look for information and interpret evidence as confirming our views, avoiding dissonance and ignoring alternate viewpoints.

What does this mean for data visualization design?

Discussion - The Truth Continuum

- What do you think of Cairo's truth continuum?
- How can we judge or evaluate the data visualizations we create on the truth continuum?
- What should we aim for on the truth continuum?
- What are some strategies that you will use to make truer data visualization?
- Is there a conflict between simplifying and making true models/visualizations? How can a designer approach such a conflict?

15 Minute Break

15:00

Chapter 5: Graph Tables, Add Labels, Make Notes

The pipe operator: %>%

Dataset (2016 General Social Survey)

	year ↕	id ↕	ballot ↕	age ↕	childs ↕	sibs ↕	degree ↕	race ↕	sex ↕	region ↕	income16 ↕	rel
1	2016	1	1	47	3	2	Bachelor	White	Male	New England	\$170000 or over	None
2	2016	2	2	61	0	3	High School	White	Male	New England	\$50000 to 59999	None
3	2016	3	3	72	2	3	Bachelor	White	Male	New England	\$75000 to \$89999	Cath
4	2016	4	1	43	4	3	High School	White	Female	New England	\$170000 or over	Cath
5	2016	5	3	55	2	2	Graduate	White	Female	New England	\$170000 or over	None
6	2016	6	2	53	2	2	Junior College	White	Female	New England	\$60000 to 74999	None

Pipe Operator - Step by Step

```
gss_sm %>%  
  group_by(bigregion, religion) %>%  
  summarize(N = n()) %>%  
  mutate(freq = N / sum(N),  
         pct = round((freq * 100), 0))
```

```
## # A tibble: 24 x 5  
## # Groups:   bigregion [4]  
##   bigregion religion      N    freq  pct  
##   <fct>      <fct>    <int>  <dbl> <dbl>  
## 1 Northeast Protestant  158 0.324   32  
## 2 Northeast Catholic   162 0.332   33  
## 3 Northeast Jewish     27 0.0553    6  
## 4 Northeast None      112 0.230   23  
## 5 Northeast Other      28 0.0574    6  
## 6 Northeast <NA>        1 0.00205    0  
## 7 Midwest Protestant  325 0.468   47  
## 8 Midwest Catholic    172 0.247   25  
## 9 Midwest Jewish       3 0.00432    0  
## 10 Midwest None      157 0.226   23  
## # ... with 14 more rows
```

Assignment / Equals

Before

```
p <- ggplot(data = gapminder,  
            mapping = aes(x = year,  
                           y = gdpPercap))
```

Now

```
gss_sm %>%  
  group_by(bigregion, religion) %>%  
  summarize(N = n()) %>%  
  mutate(freq = N / sum(N),  
          pct = round((freq * 100), 0))
```

Creating Columns / Variables

```
gss_sm %>%  
  group_by(bigregion, religion) %>%  
  summarize(N = n()) %>%  
  mutate(freq = N / sum(N),  
         pct = round((freq * 100), 0))
```

Lab Time

Pages 91 - 101, 110-113, 132 (bullet points 2-3), 133 (bullet points 1-3)

Homework Assignment

Task: Create 3 calculated fields and plot them.

Due: February 24, 2021

Rubric

Notes

- You should explore a dataset other than `gapminder` (some ideas: `babynames`, `palmerpenguins`, a CSV file you found; you may also use `gss_sm` or `organdata`, but you must create something different than the book/lab)
- To use an R package dataset that you have not used before, remember to run `install.packages("package_name")` once in the console and add `library(package_name)` to the `setup` portion of the `.Rmd` file
- Use your resources: Healy, Google, Student Community BUT cite where you get code from if you copy it directly
- See Blackboard assignment for a template `.Rmd` file

Midterm

Task: Using R and an approved dataset, create a polished infographic that contains at least 3 charts.

Due: March 3, 2021

Rubric

- Pick a dataset using one of the resources available on Blackboard. The dataset must be approved; email Jenn a link to the dataset for approval prior to **February 24**.
- Create summary statistics and 3-5 polished visuals based on the dataset using **only R**.
- The visuals created in R must include: titles, axis labels, data labels and legends (as needed), your name and the data source (as footnotes/captions)
- Output the visuals to **.svg** and import them into Adobe Illustrator to create an infographic that includes a narrative, the visuals from R, and other graphics.
- Turn in your R code as an **.Rmd** file, including comments about what you did and why, **and** the final infographic.
- In class on **March 3**, be prepared to share information about your dataset, your visuals, what they show, and the choices you made in their design. You will share both your code and the final infographic.

Tasks to Complete

- Reading (Cairo - Chapter 4: Of Conjectures and Uncertainty)
- Homework #2
- Start Working on Midterm (dataset must be approved by February 24)
- Prepare for your Data Visualization of the Week