



DATA SCIENCE PPGIA/PUCPR

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EXPLORATORY DATA ANALYSIS VERSUS EXPLANATORY DATA ANALYSIS

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Exploratory analysis vs. Explanatory analysis

- Exploratory
 - Analysis conducted when we need to understand the data
 - Questions are made and we answer them using statistics or visualizations
 - Visualizations are not perfect
- Explanatory
 - Aims at “polishing” the results of the explanatory analysis
 - Highlights the insights obtained
 - Is often coupled with a story or demand

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Steps

- Data extraction
- Data cleansing
- Exploratory analysis
- Data analysis
- **Sharing**

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I have a dataset and I need to present it to someone else.

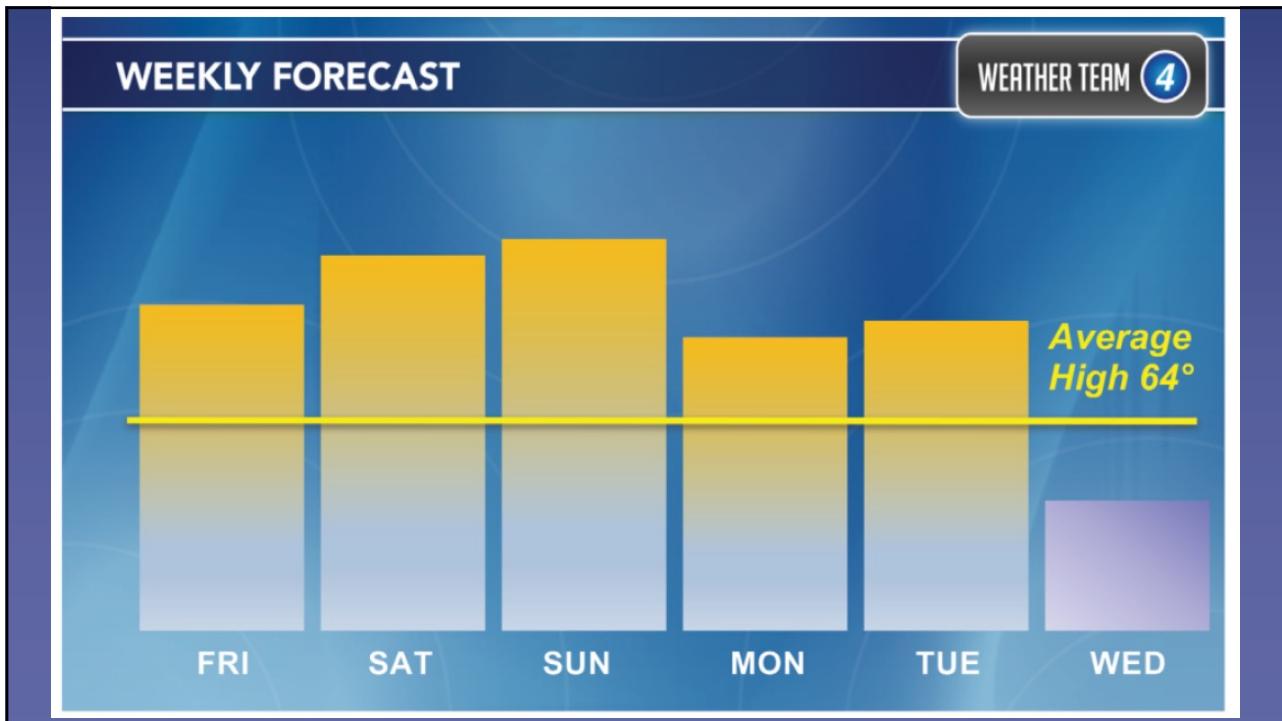
How can I do so, **effectively**?

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Analyze the following image.
What can you infer about it?

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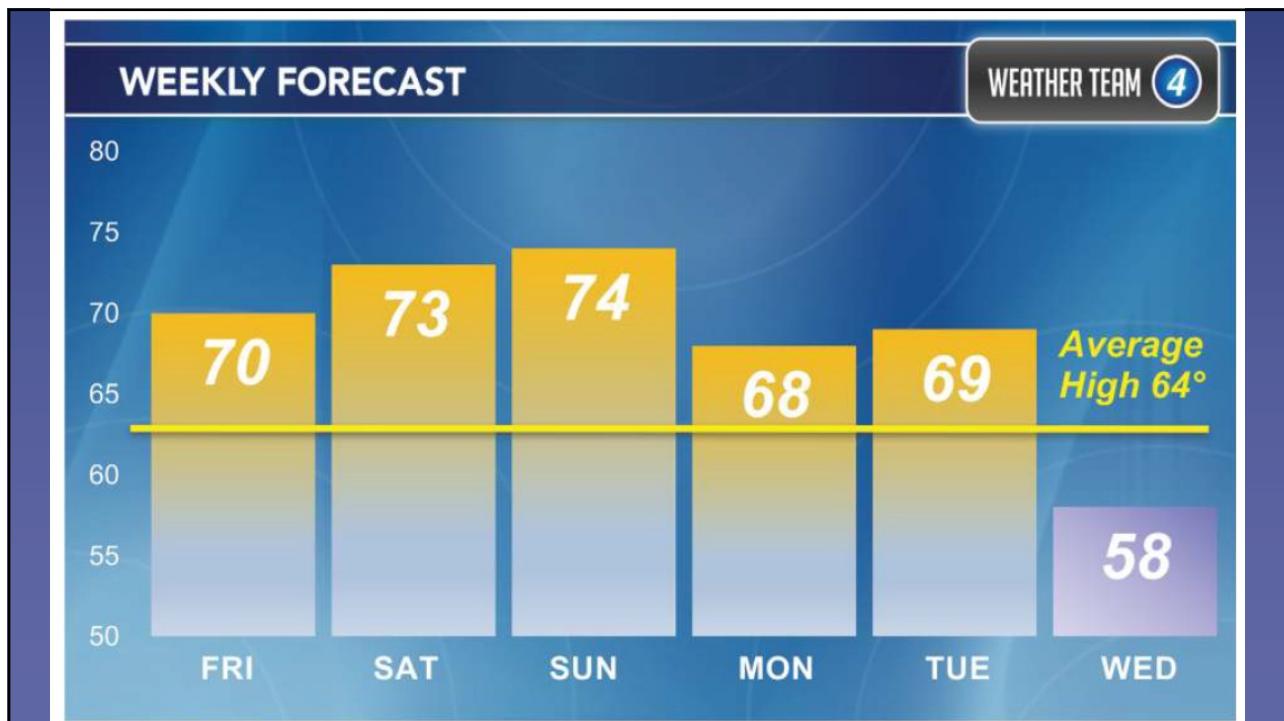
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What temperature would you estimate for Sunday?

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EFFECTIVE DATA VIZUALIZATION

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Effective data visualization

- Visualizations are means to communicate, and thus, we must ensure that the reader acknowledges the same information we intended to divulge
- Suggestion: triple-check the checklist that comes next
- We will work on this topic following a “*reductio ad absurdum*” approach in the sense that we will check what should **NOT** be done

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Checklist

- Title
- Axes labels
- Axes units
- Legend
- Scale
- Order
- Colors
- Text size
- Chart junk

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POOR DATA VISUALIZATION

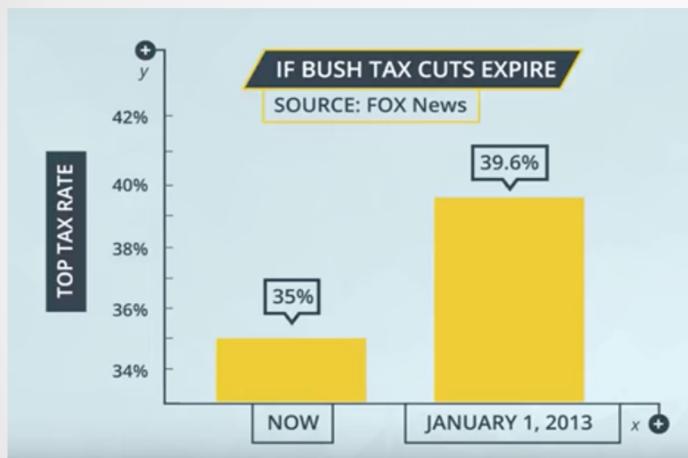
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What deems a visualization poor?

- A visualization is poor if our message is unclear
- This means we should avoid:
 - Ambiguity
 - Lack of information
 - Omission
 - Distraction

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Example

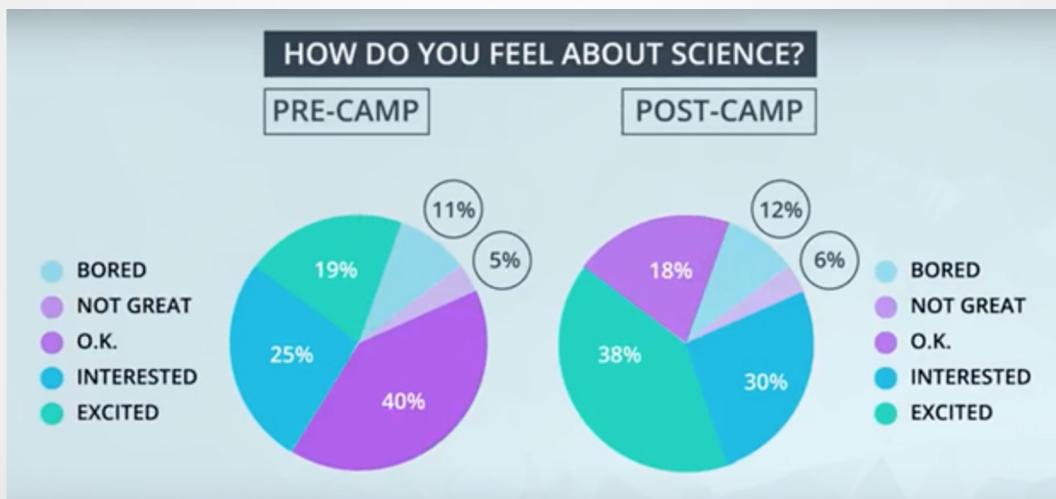


- The difference between the bars is somewhat small, but the scale makes us believe the difference is huge

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Example

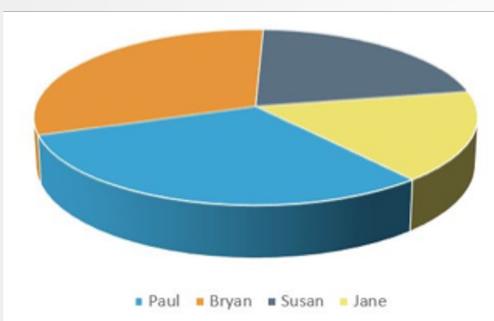
Is it possible to say that the interest in science increased with the camp?



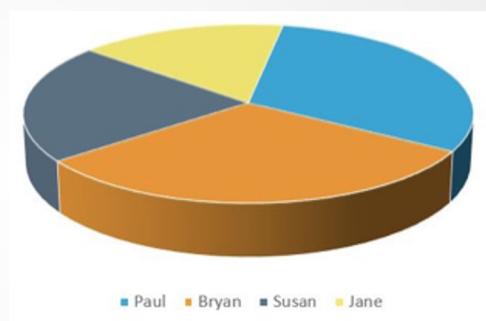
19

Example

Which of the regions below is larger?



Bryan or Paul?

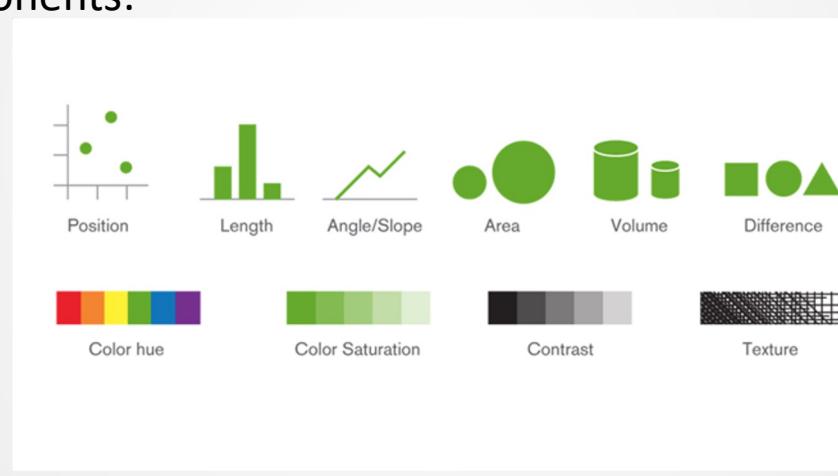


What about here?

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Visual components

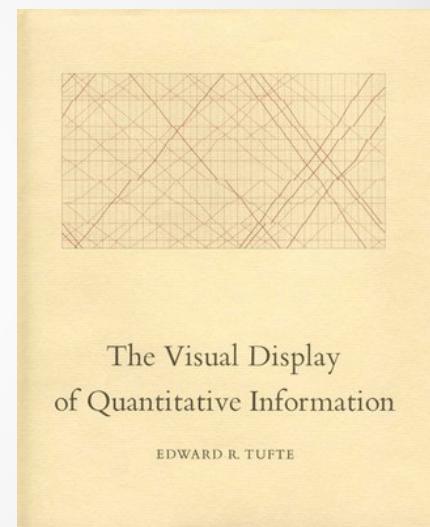
Data visualizations are tailored using the following components:



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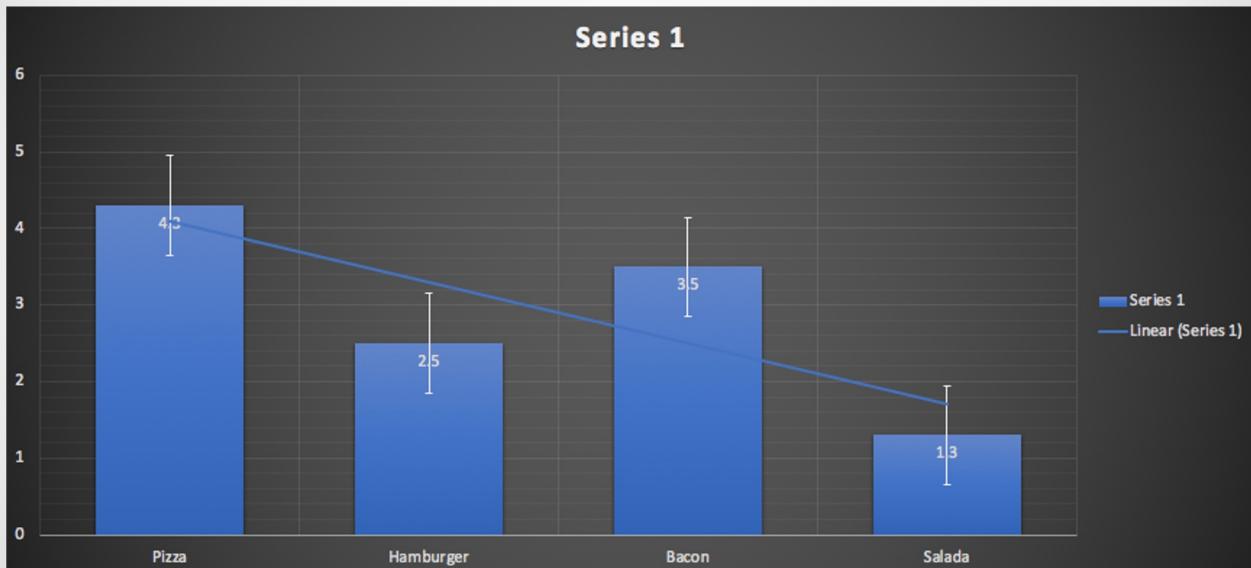
Chart Junk

- When deciding which components we should use, it is a good idea to think about what **NOT** to use
- Tufte created the "data-ink ratio" concept, which is the relation between the ink required to plot the data and the ink used for the rest



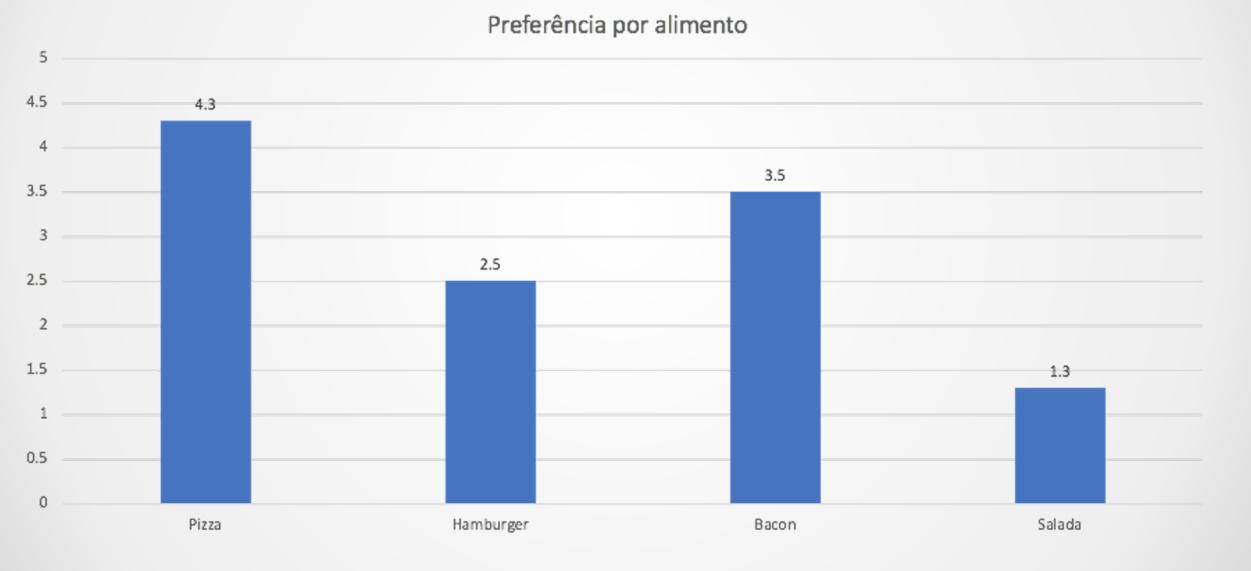
22

Chart Junk



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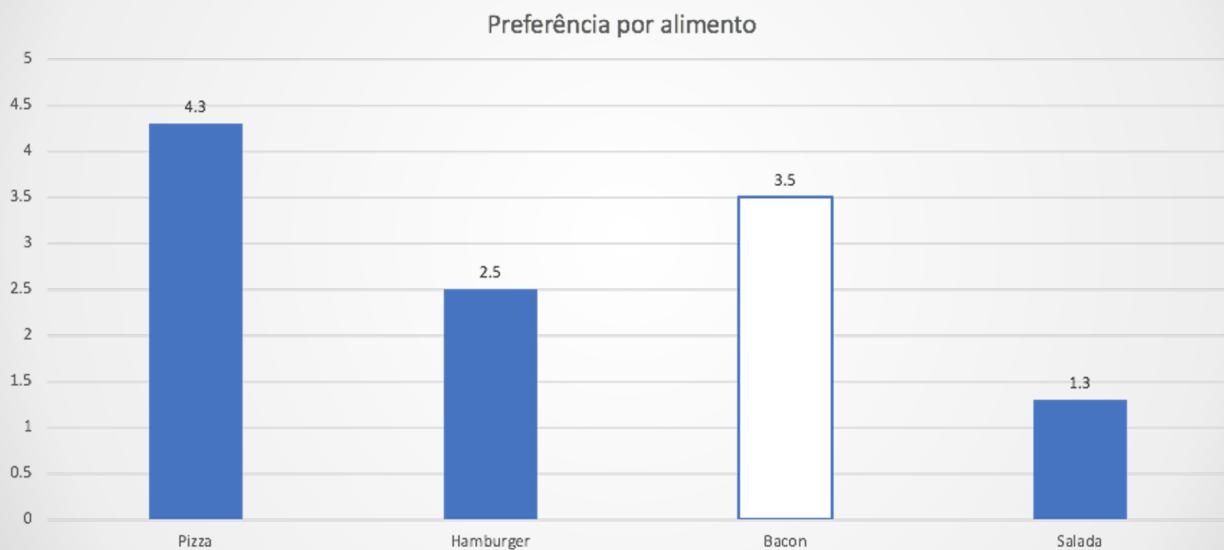
Chart Junk



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Chart Junk

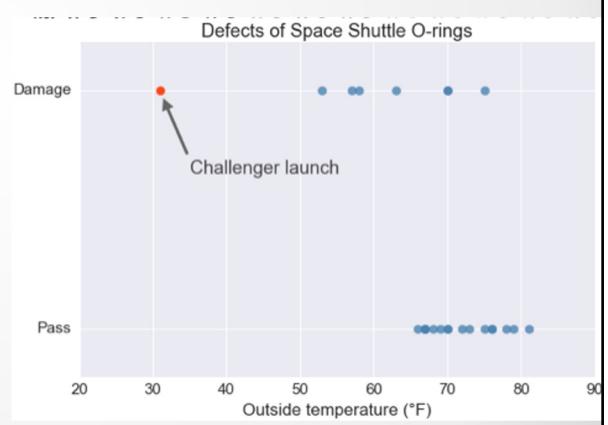
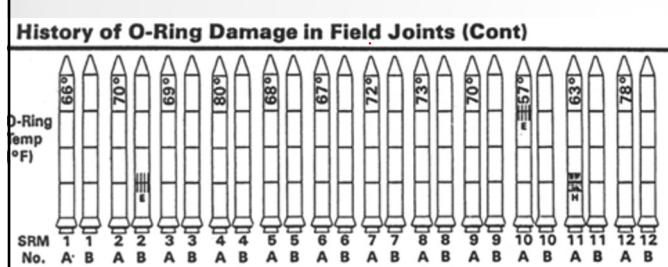
Colors can be used to highlight something!



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Chart Junk

What is your feeling about these plots?

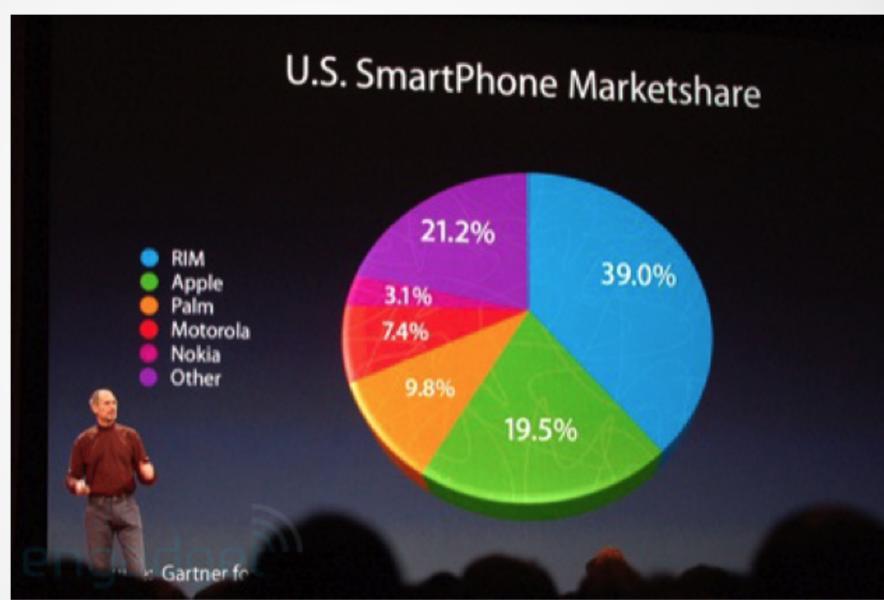


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ANALYSIS

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What problems do you see here?

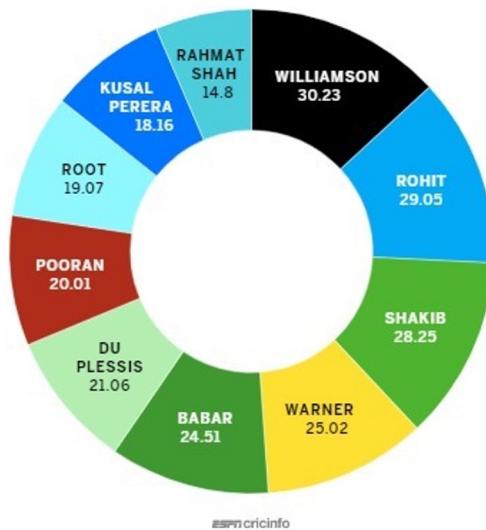


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And here?

THE WORLD CUP'S BIG GUNS

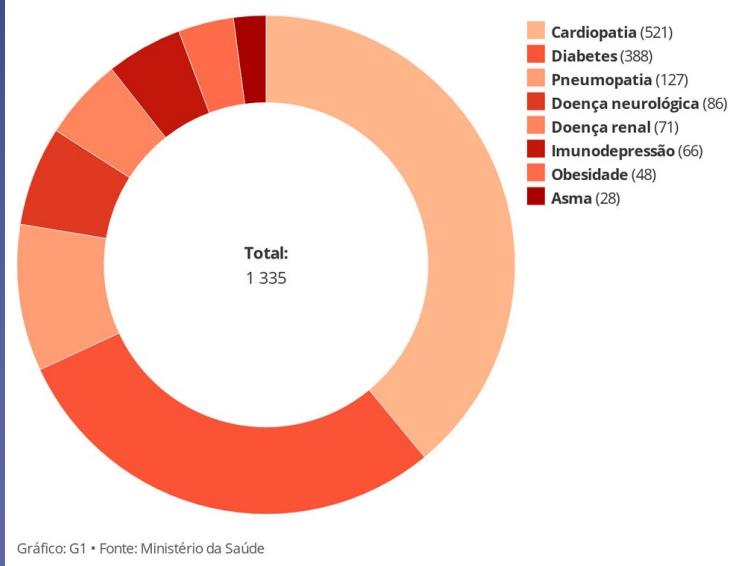
% OF TEAM'S RUNS SCORED BY TOP SCORER



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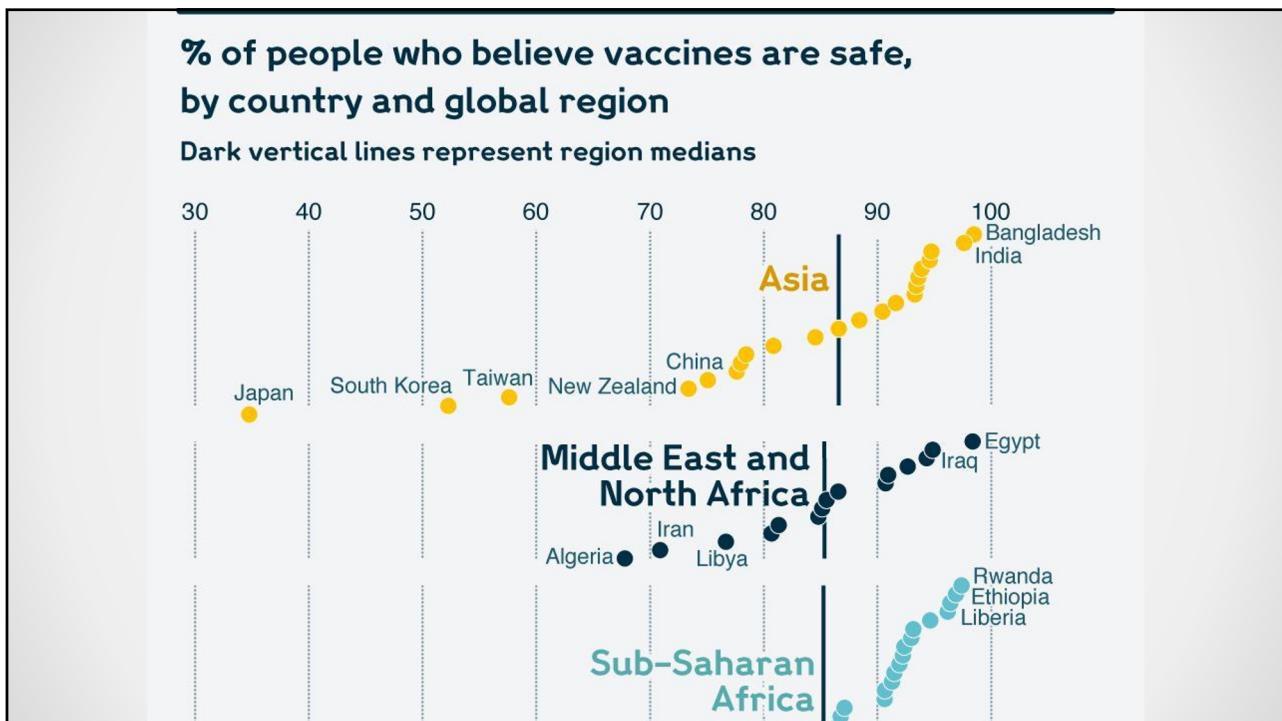
Mortes de Covid-19 no Brasil

75% das vítimas tinham doenças associadas

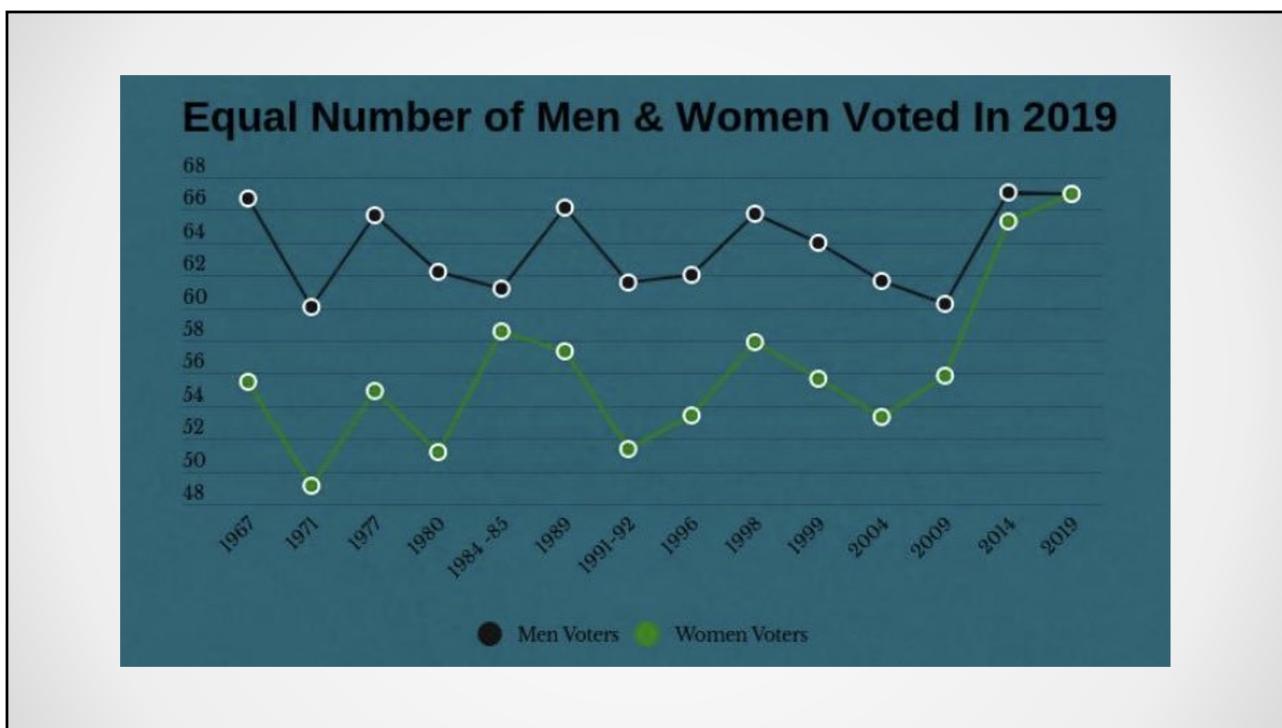


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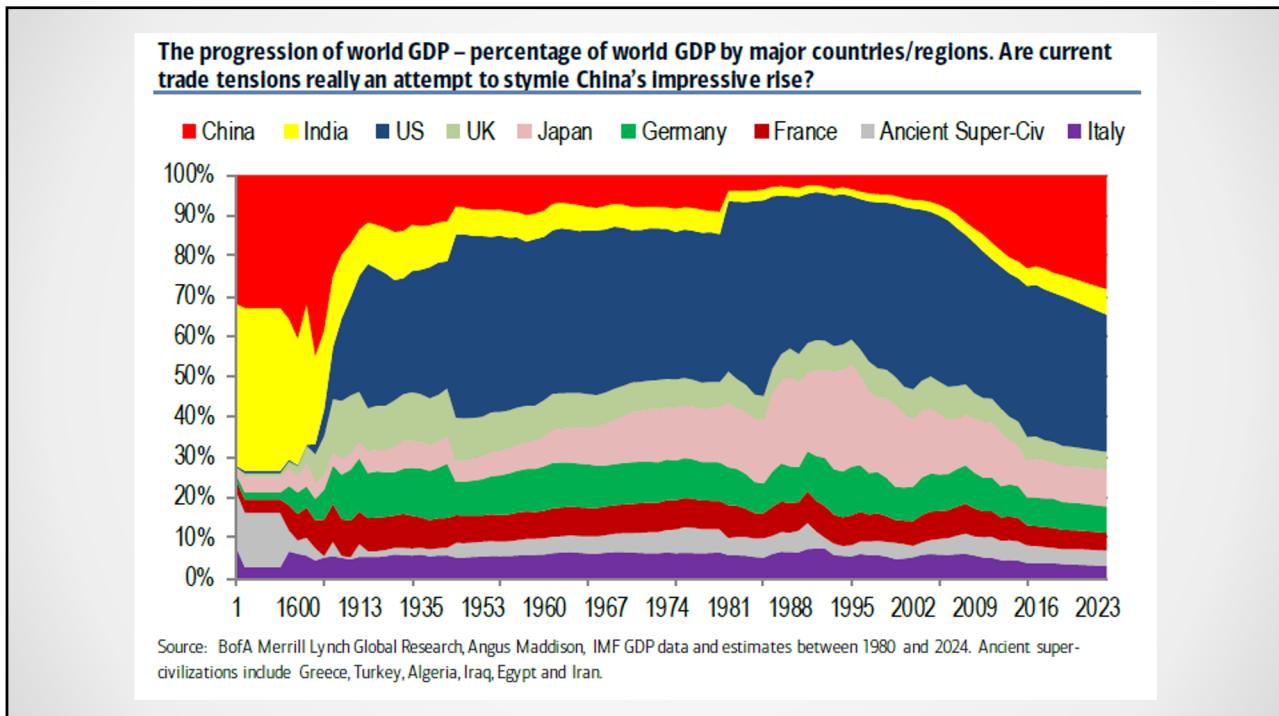
14



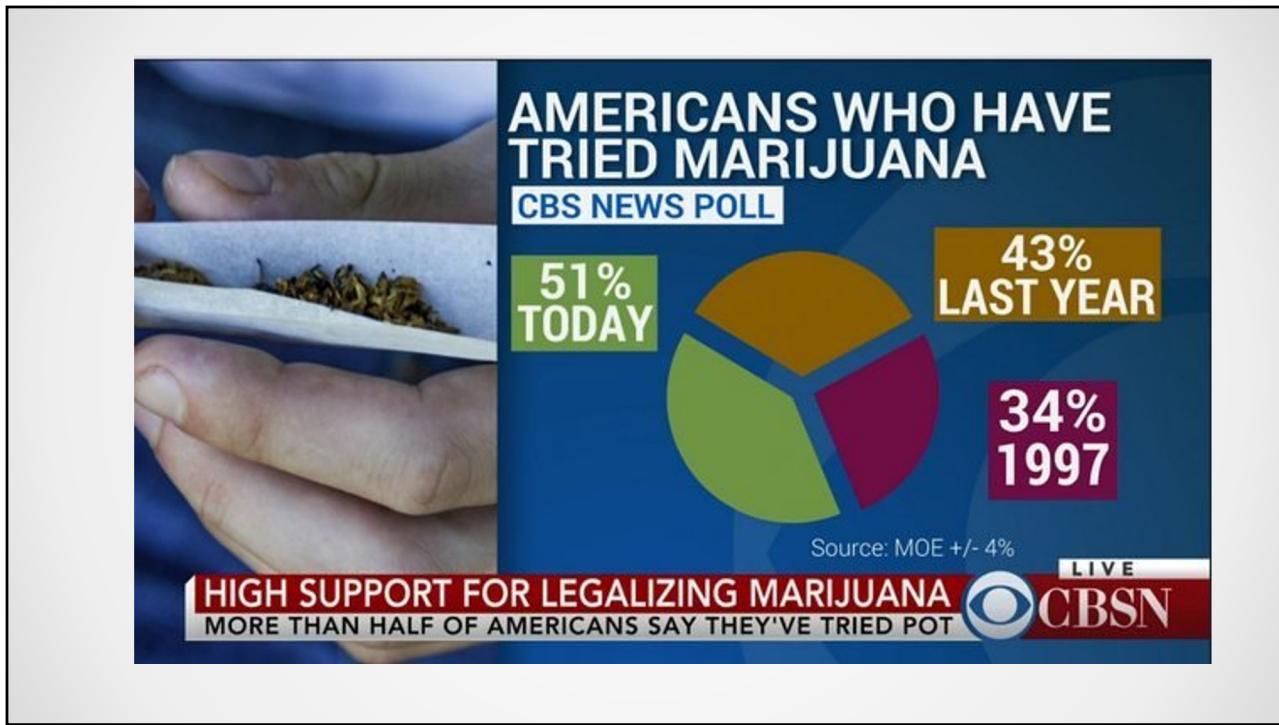
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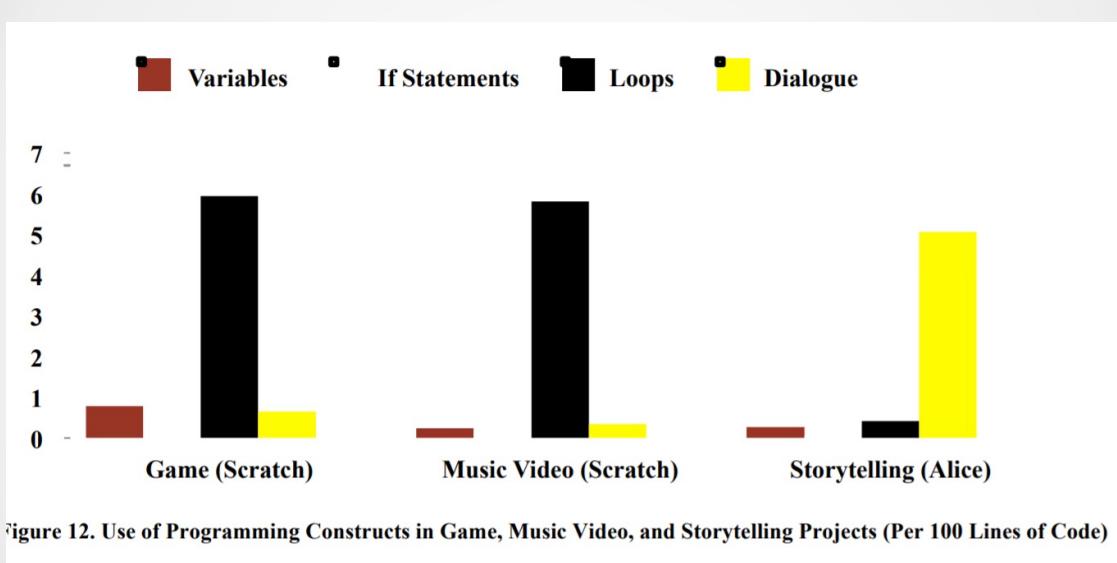
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If you're not satisfied enough...

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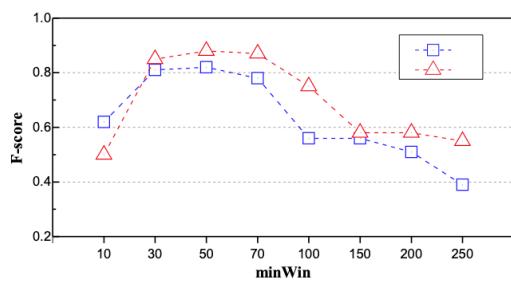


Fig. 14. F-scores obtained with different minWin

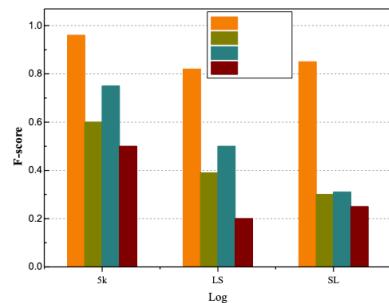
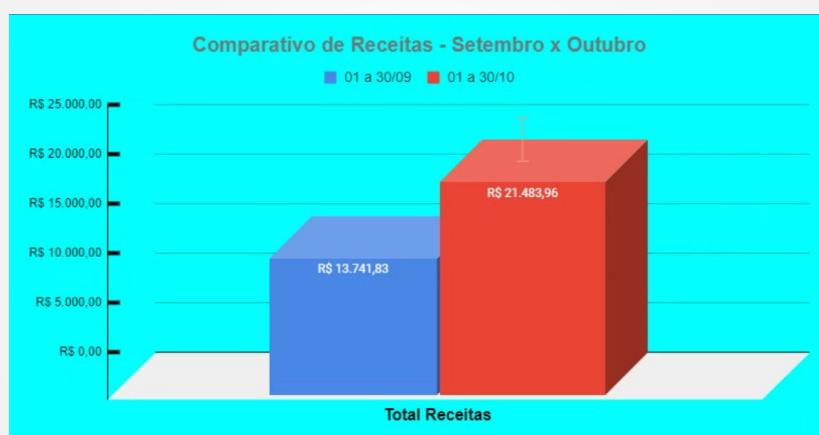


Fig. 15. F-scores obtained under different adaptive window strategies

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References

Most of these visualizations were obtained from
<https://badvisualisations.tumblr.com/>

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GESTALT PRINCIPLES

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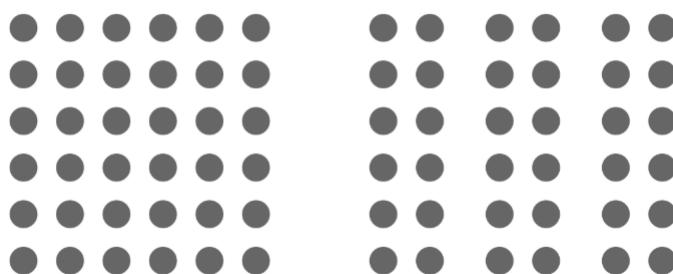
Gestalt principles

- Proximity
- Similarity
- Enclosure
- Closure
- Continuity
- Connection

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Proximity

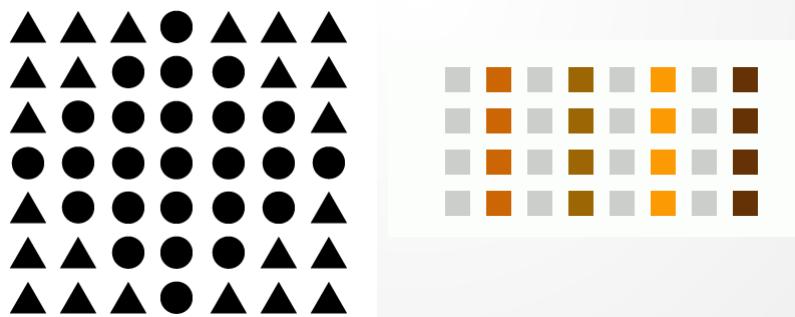
- Things that are closer to one another are perceived as belonging to a same group



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Similarity

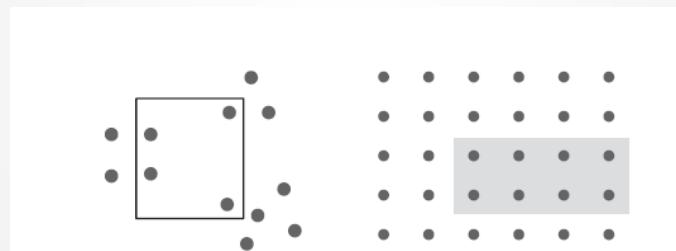
- Objects that share shapes, sizes, colors or orientation are perceived as belonging to the same group



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Enclosure

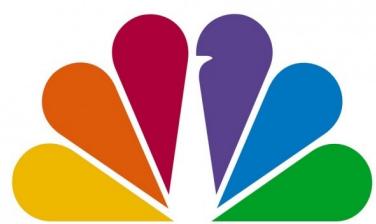
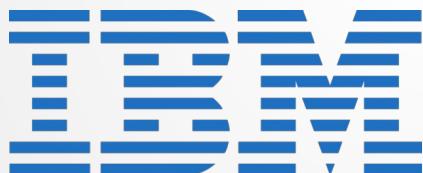
- We observe objects that are enclosed together as belonging to the same group



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Closure

- We perceive objects as a whole even though some parts are missing.



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Continuity

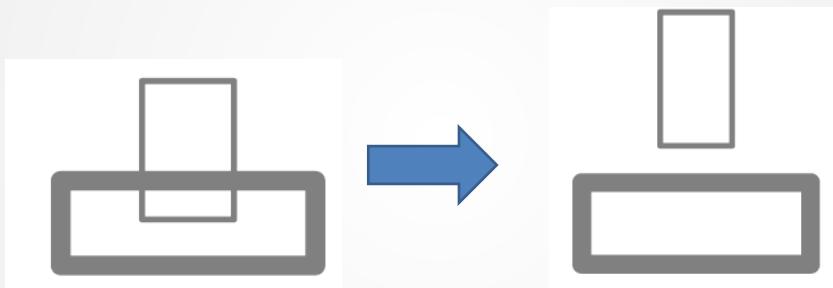
- Our eyes seek the most “natural” and “smooth” path between objects, even though they may not exist

How would you separate these items?



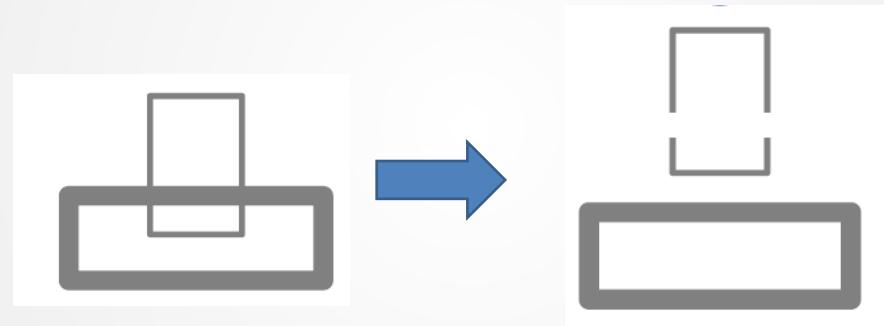
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Continuity - 1



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Continuity - 2



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Connection

- We tend to perceive connected objects as a group



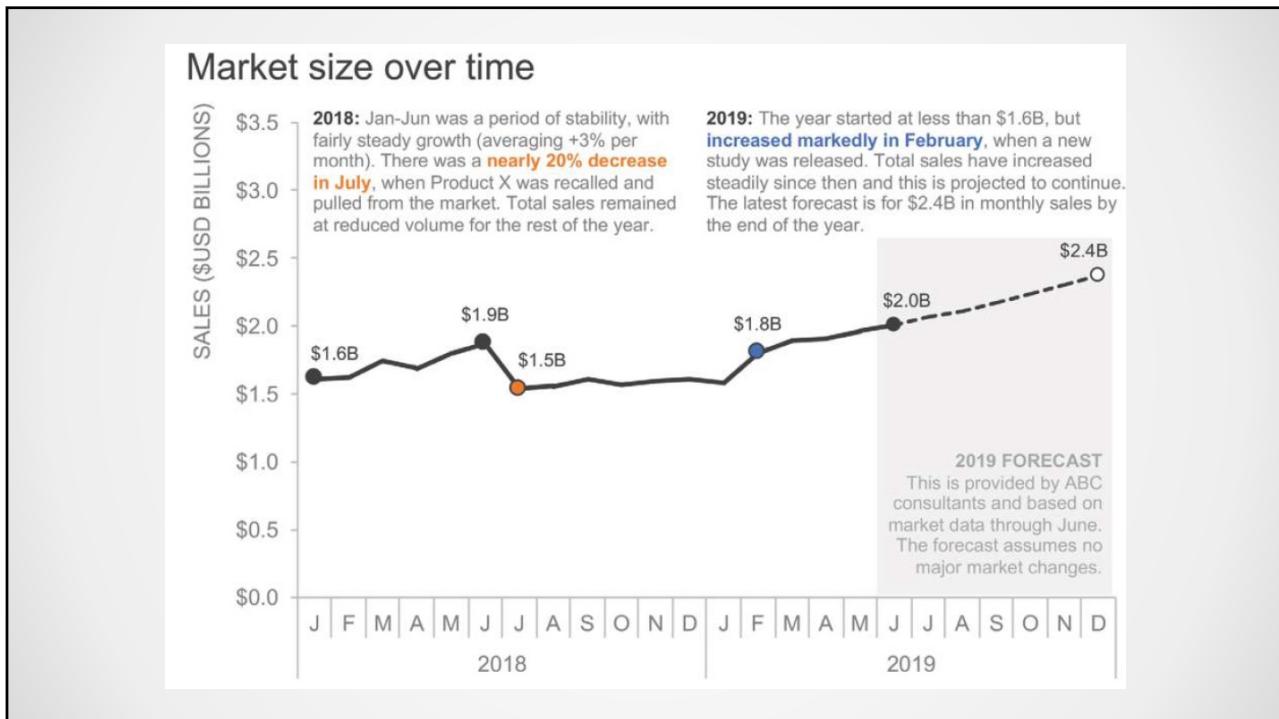
- Connection is often stronger than color, shape or size

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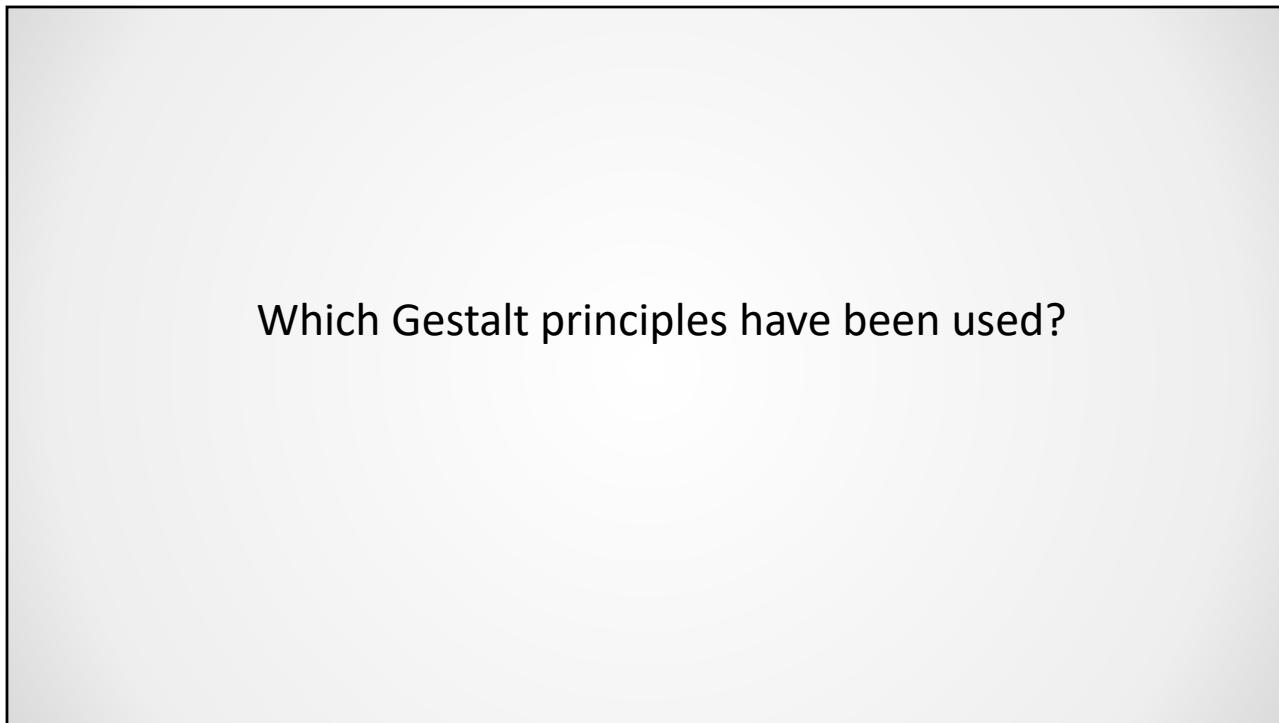
Analyze the following visualization (5 minutes).

Next, you will be asked a (tough) question about it and the gestalt principles.

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Which gestalt principles have been used?

- **Proximity:**
 - Indicates that the y axis, title and labels must be read together
 - Clarifies that the data labels and markers are related
- **Similarity:**
 - The similarity of colors (orange and blue) with the text is used to connect things

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Which gestalt principles have been used?

- **Enclosure:**
 - The gray region is used to differentiate the forecasts from the historical values

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Which gestalt principles have been used?

- Continuity:
 - The dashed line is used to connect the forecasts in the right section of the plot
- Connection:
 - In the line plot, all points are connected and make the trend easily visible

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Which visual components would you change in the following visualization? (5 min)

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1. Removing the external blue lines

- The lines between the title and the plot, as well as the most external line are unnecessary
- The enclosure principle allows us to visualize the plot without them

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2. Remove the grid lines

- Removing the grid lines, our attention is drawn to the data

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3. Remove the zeroes from the y axis

- The extra zeroes in the decimal places are not required
- It is also interesting to change the y axis scale for 15-day intervals

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4. Eliminate diagonal texts in the x axis

- Diagonal and vertical texts are polemic
- Whenever possible, prefer horizontal texts

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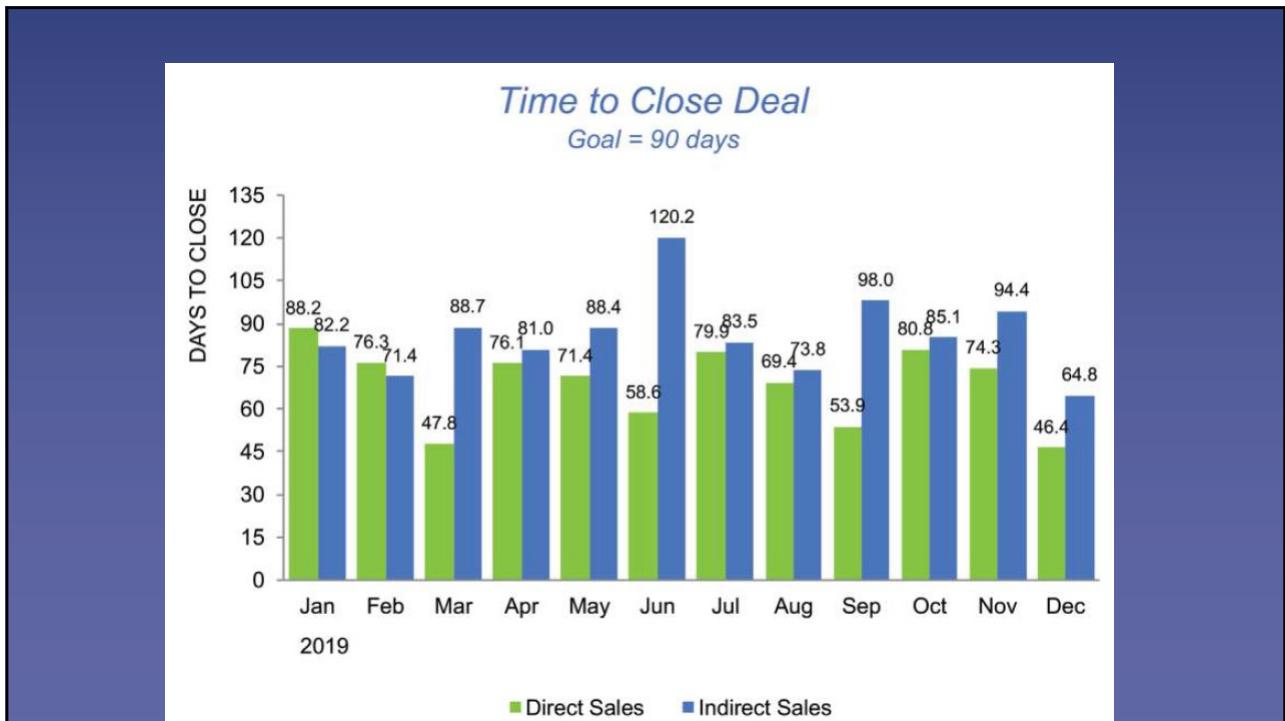


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5. Decrease blank spaces

- Avoid having unnecessarily big blank spaces between bars
- Useful due to the connection principle
- A good practice, however, is to keep blank spaces between bars from different categories

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6. “Drag” the labels to the bars

- Whenever possible, round the values

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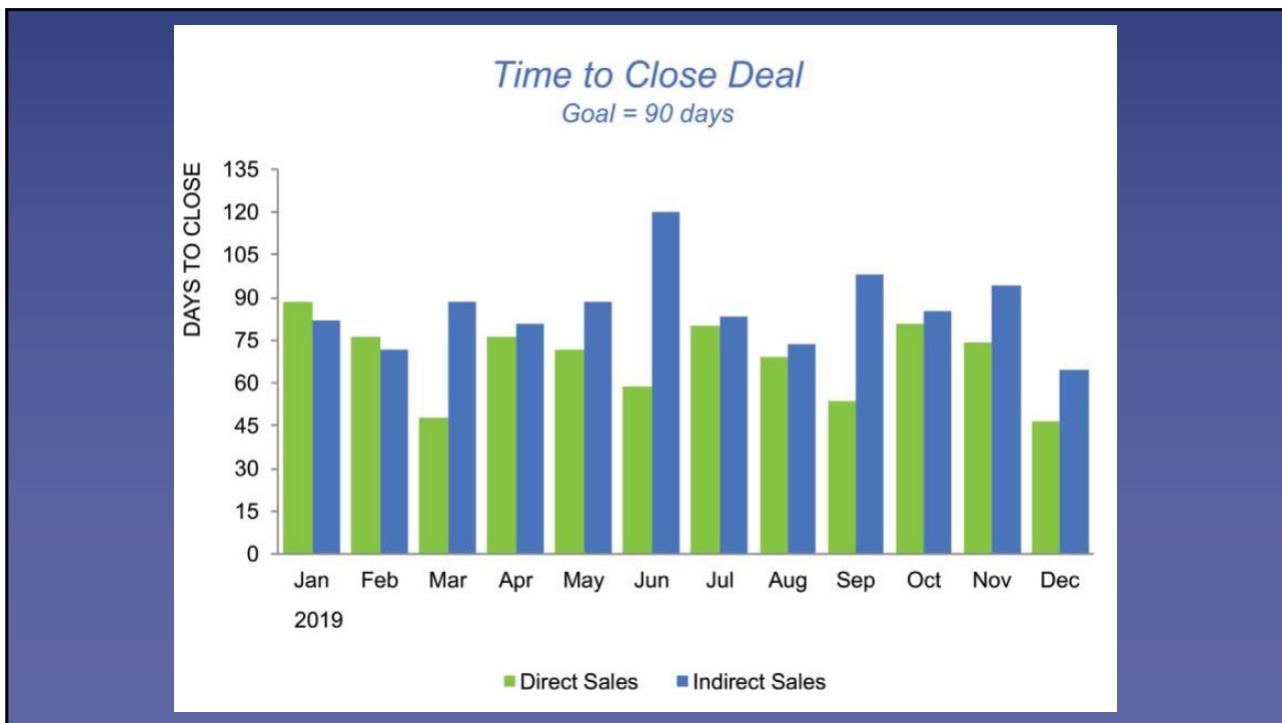
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7. Eliminate the data labels

- The y axis is redundant with the numbers provided in the labels

- Important: remove or not to remove?
 - It depends on the context:
 - The exact values are required?
 - Or the trend is more relevant?

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8. Make it a line plot

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9. Apply the legend to the plot

- Using the proximity principle, we can label our lines inside the plot itself

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10. Changing the legend color to adhere to the data

- Proximity and similarity

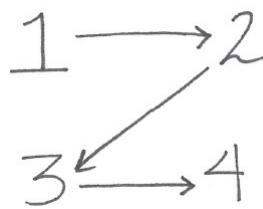
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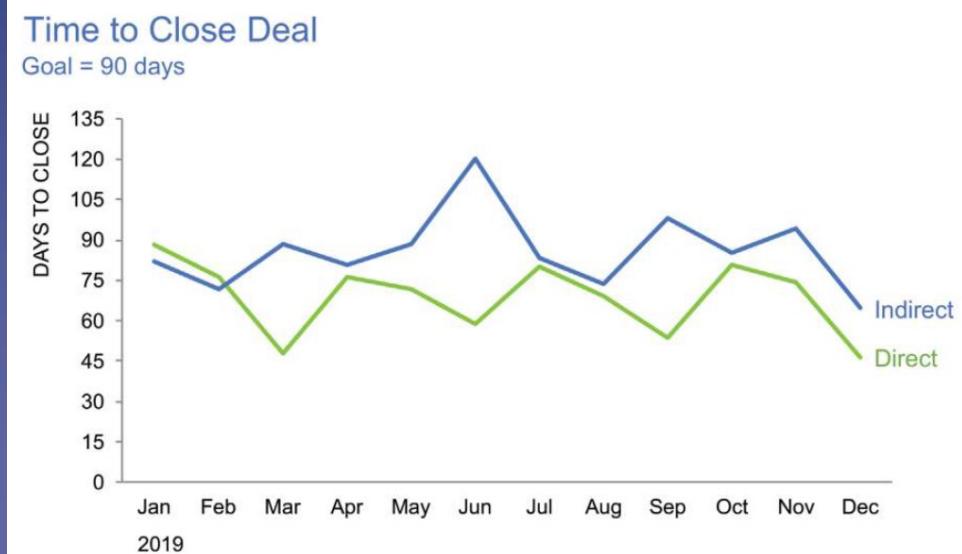
11. Title position

- Do not forget how we read (*zigzagging z's*):



- With this small change, the reader will focus on the title before anything else

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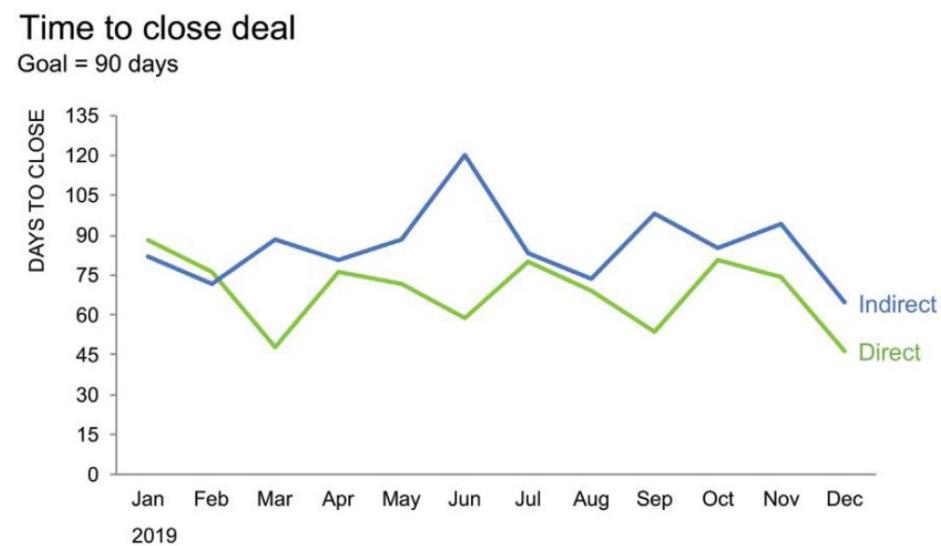


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12. Removing the title color

- Is the color from the title anyhow related to the “indirect” component?

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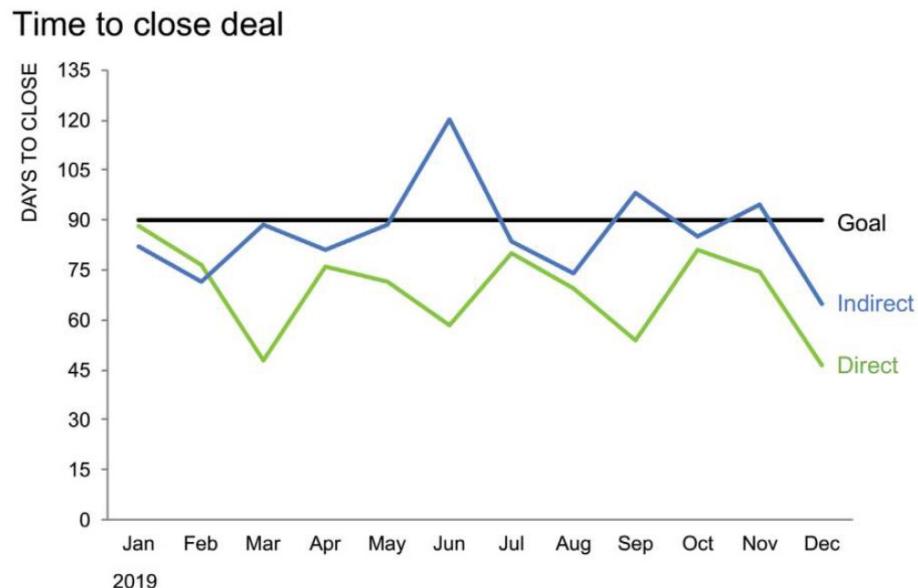


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13. Adding the goal to the plot

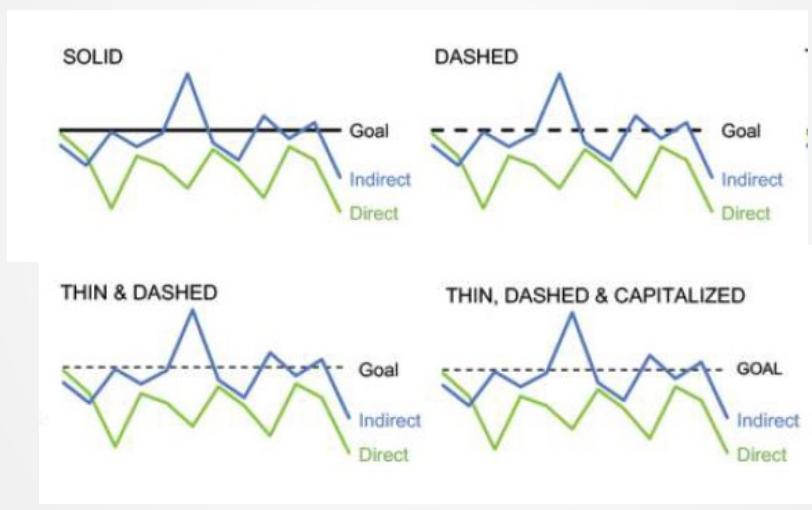
- The goal to make a deal is 90 days
- This information can be added to the plot to make the analysis of the curves more visual

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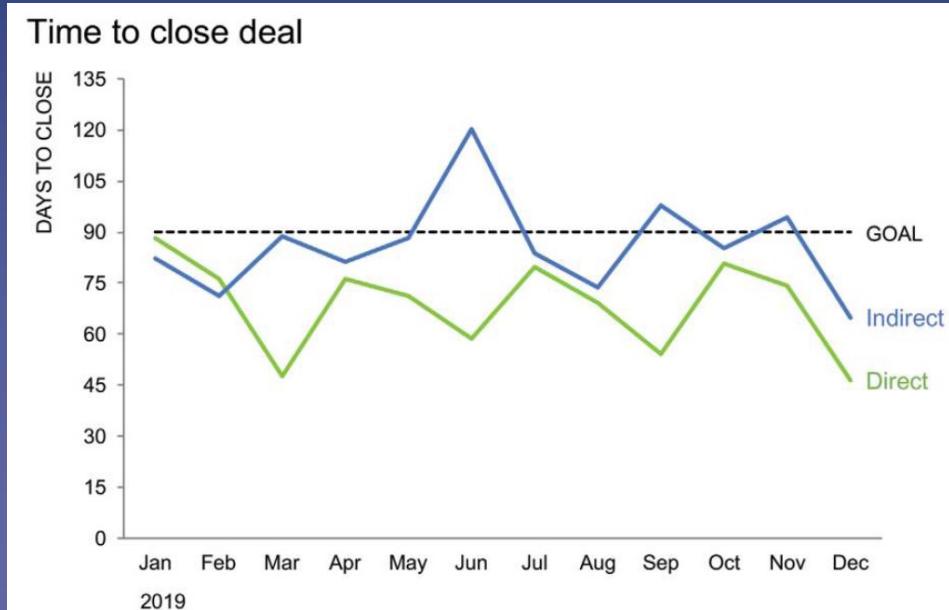


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14. Testing different approaches



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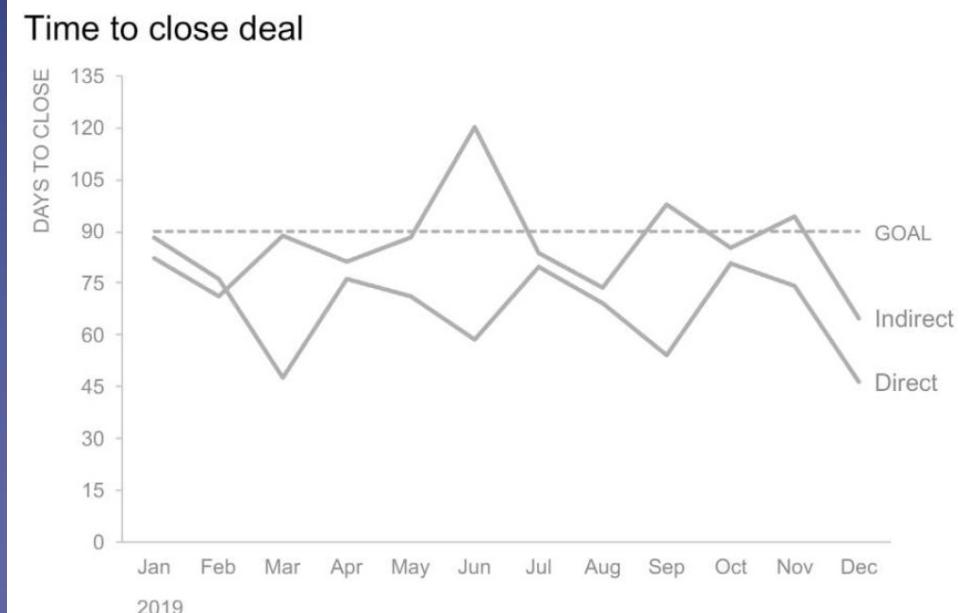


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15. Removing colors

- We have enough separation between the lines

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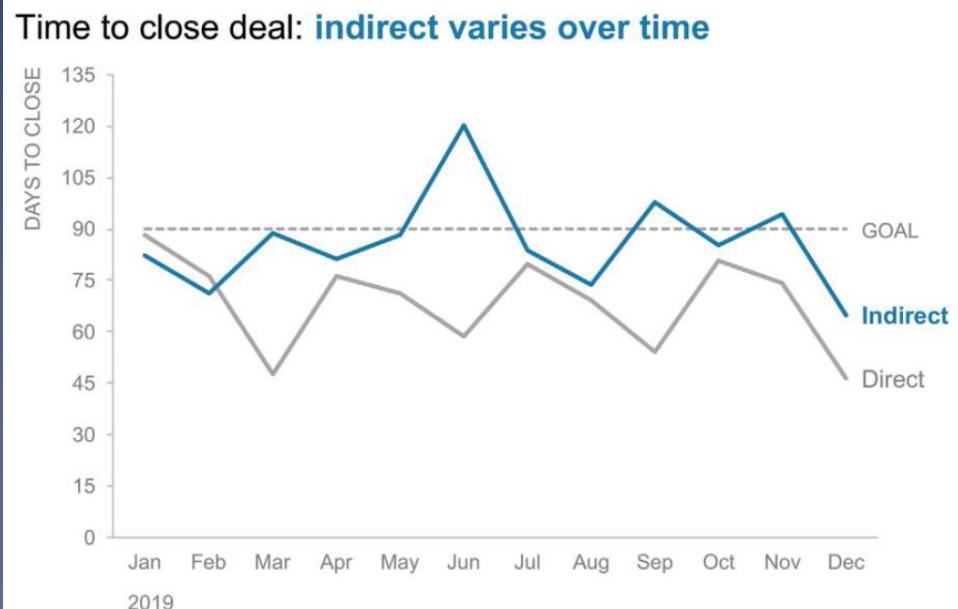


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16. Drawing attention

- Depending on the audience and goal of the visualization, we may draw the attention to one of the lines

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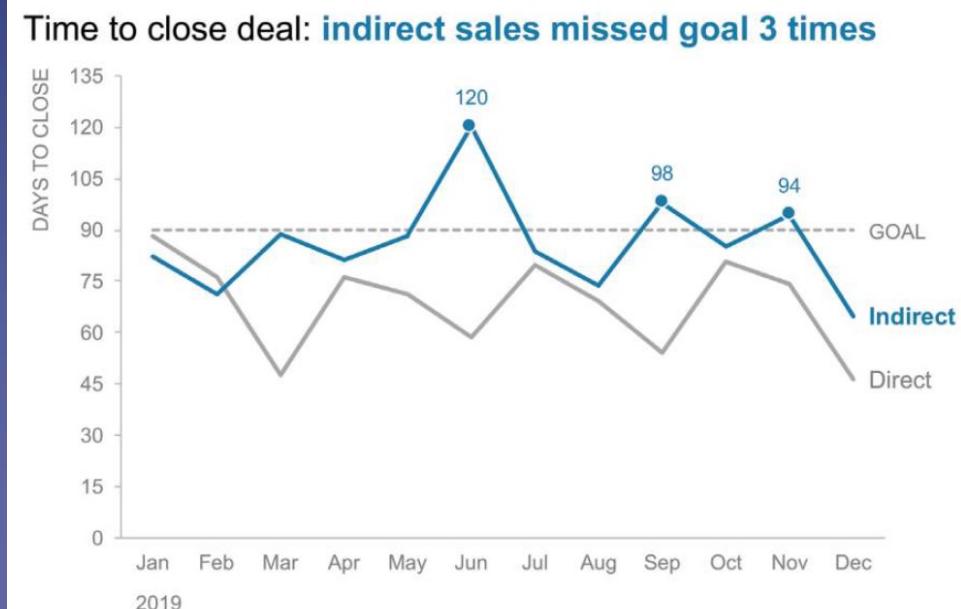


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17. Focusing on other aspects

- We can focus on other aspects, depending on what we intend to highlight

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BE MINDFUL OF COLORS

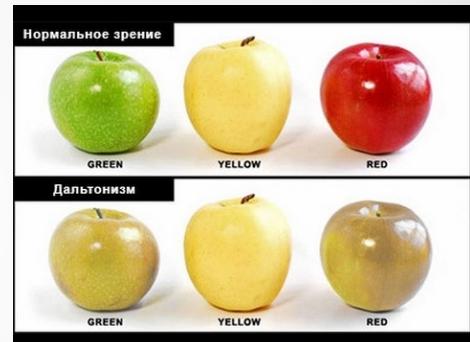
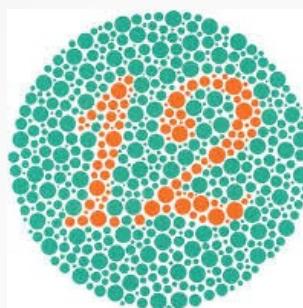
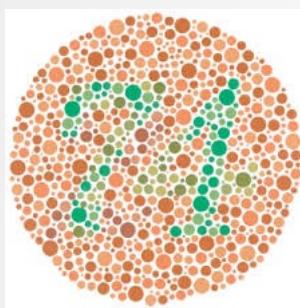
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Colors

- One of the most common mistakes in visualizations regards the poor selection of colors
- Generally, all visualizations should use 2 colors, unless more are indeed needed
- Colors can be used to highlight things
- If colors are needed, avoid intense colors
 - Prefer colors with higher gray values

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Color blindness



- Keep in mind: approximately 1 in every 8 men and 1 in every 200 women are colorblind!

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Color blindness

- Adobe Color Wheel
<https://color.adobe.com/create/color-accessibility>
- Online color blindness test:
<https://enchroma.com/pages/test>
- Nice video on how color blindness works:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iNRQB5309yo>

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Hints

- Avoid using **red colors** and **green** together.
- If you need both together, use another visual component as redundancy
- A suggestion is to use **orange** and **blue**.

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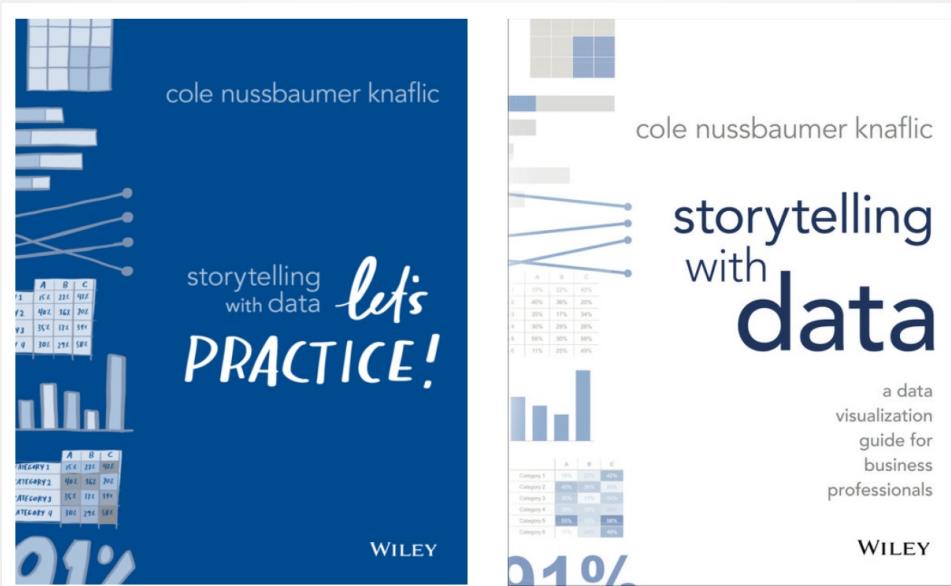
More hints

Avoid the following combinations:

- Green and red
- Green and brown
- Blue and purple
- Green and blue
- Light green and yellow
- Blue and gray
- Green and gray
- Green and black

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References



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