Data Visualization – Tutorial

Stefan Halfpap

https://github.com/klauck/data_visualization_tutorial

About me

PostDoc in the Database Systems and Information Management (DIMA) group

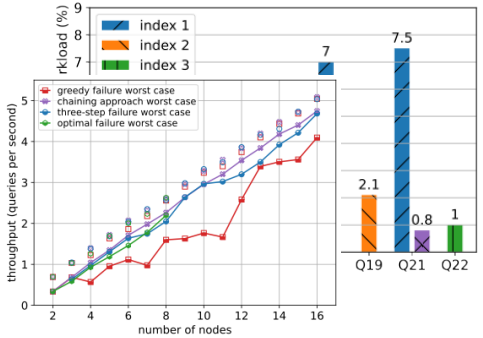
- Distributed stream processing
- Data management systems

NebulaStream

PhD student in the Enterprise Platform and Integration Concepts (EPIC) group

- Physical database optimization
- Main memory database systems

HYRISE



Outline

1. Motivation
2. Types and Tools
3. Hands on Examples
4. Best Practices
5. Summary and Discussion

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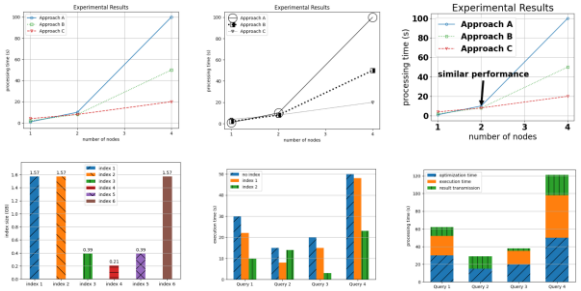
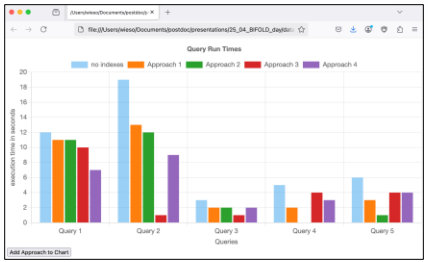
1. Motivation und Use Cases
2. **Types and Tools**
3. **Hands on Examples**
4. **Best Practices**
5. Summary and Discussion

What you will learn

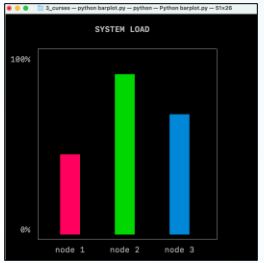
Matplotlib for static graphs



(Intro) Chart.js for interactive web applications



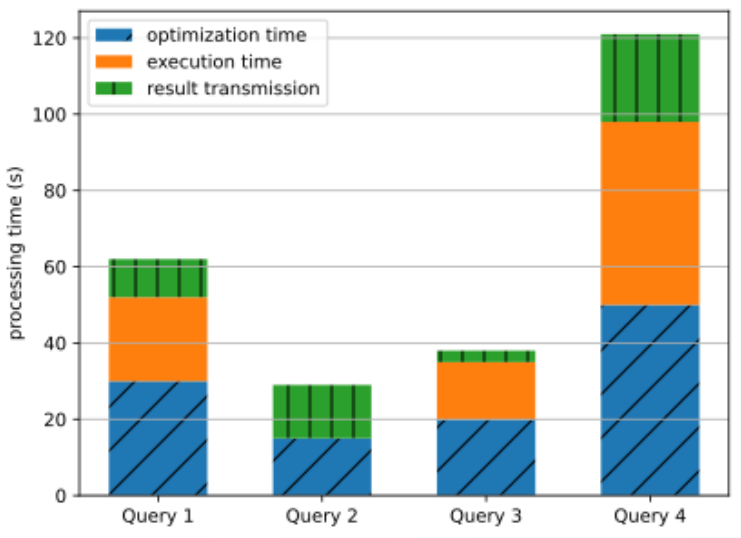
(Intro) Python curses for terminal applications



Motivation

```
queries = ['Query 1', 'Query 2', 'Query 3', 'Query 4']
optimization_time = [30, 15, 20, 50]
execution_time = [22, 0, 15, 48]
result_transmission = [10, 14, 3, 23]
```

vs.



Motivation and Use Cases

- **Humans can** more **easily perceive visual differences** than sequences of text or numbers

Data visualizations

- Exploring, understanding, and communicating data

Essential research skill

- Early prototypes -> systematic experiments -> final publications
- Papers/theses, presentations, or applications/demonstrations

Types and Tools

What to use?

It depends!

Types and Tools

What to use?

It depends on..

the **purpose**, **data**, and **own experience**.

Types and Tools

Factors that influence data visualization types and tools

- **Purpose**
  - Self usage vs. communicate to others vs. products
  - Papers/theses, presentations, or applications/demonstrations
  - Customization, automation, reproducibility
  - Static vs. dynamic
- **Data**
  - Size, dimensions, and kind (2D vs. 3D; metric, categorical, maps, …)
- **Your own experience**
  - Beginner
  - Intermediate
  - Advanced

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- **Data**
  - Size, dimensions, and kind (**2D** vs. 3D; **metric, categorical**, maps, …)
- Your own (**programming**) experience and **available software**
  - Beginner (OpenOffice Calc or MS Excel, Google Sheets, web applications)
  - Intermediate (Tableau Software or other BI tools)
  - **Advanced (visualization libraries, e.g., Matplotlib, chart.js)**

Types and Tools

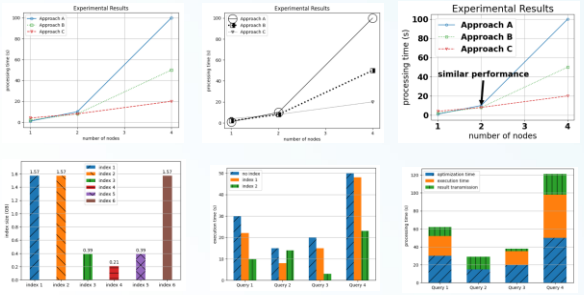
Suitable visualization libraries depend on

the programming language and your specific needs

Hands on

https://github.com/klauck/data_visualization_tutorial

- Matplotlib for static graphs



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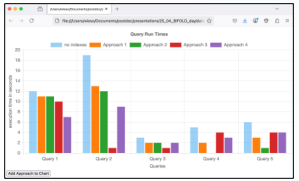

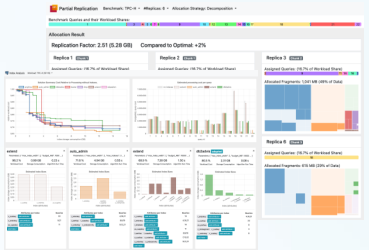

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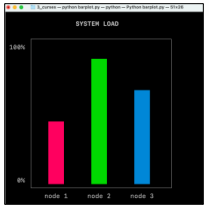


Best Practices

- Use what fits best to you(r needs)
- Organize the data to visualize (structure, version, queryable)
- Configurable, automated, and reproducible visualizations
- Visualization styles
  - Keep it simple
  - Keep it clear/self-contained
    - Use titles, labels (e.g. axes with units), annotations, legends
    - Avoid distortion and misrepresentation (do not mislead the audience)
  - Use appropriate sizes, markers, colors, patterns
  - Use consistent styles, colors, and names
  - Chart type, data selection, scaling (linear vs. logarithmic)

See also: Friends Don't Let Friends Make Bad Graphs
https://github.com/cxli233/FriendsDontLetFriends

Data Visualization – Tutorial Summary and Discussion

Suitable Types and Tools

depend on **purpose**, **data**, and **own experience**

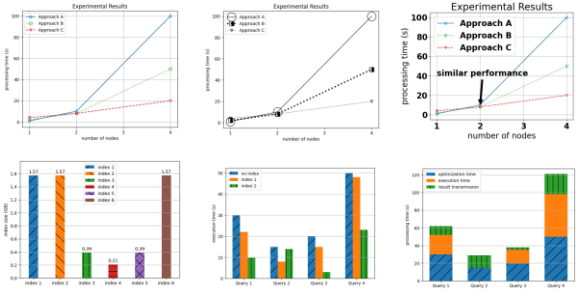
Best Practices

- Organize the data to visualize
- Configurable, automated, and reproducible
- Appropriate visualization styles

Hands on Examples

https://github.com/klauck/data_visualization_tutorial

Matplotlib for static graphs



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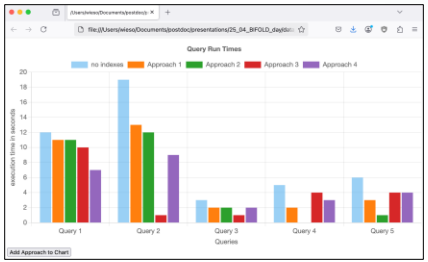

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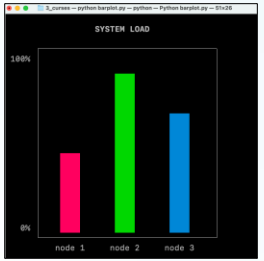

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