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Review of D3.js and Tableau Public

D3.js, or data-driven documents, utilizes javascript in creating data visualizations. D3.js is a javascript library that allows you to create arrays of data while also giving you the ability to load txt files, XML files, JSON blobs, CSV files, TSV files, HTML documents, and XMLHttpRequests. D3.js supports a number of visualization types and allows lets users use a document object model, DOM, to create these visualizations. HTML and CSS capabilities in D3.js give the users many options in customizing their data visualizations. With D3.js being a javascript library, it is great for bringing data visualizations to the web. Additionally, there is an extremely strong D3 community online providing many examples to look at when creating visualizations. While D3.js provides a tremendous amount of customization available and offers many examples of online through its robust community, it is a bit more difficult for beginners since you must know how to code in javascript in HTML to use D3.js.

Tableau Public is a software that offers many different options for data visualizations. Tableau Public supports pdf, txt, JSON, and csv files. Tableau Public offers an extremely user-friendly interface to create visualizations. The GUI allows for the user to create professional looking visualizations without even typing any code at all. This makes it incredibly easy to manipulate datasets and allows users to easily change their visualizations to their liking. Unlike D3.js, Tableau Public only lets the user visualize static information and does not allow for dynamic graphics. Tableau javascript API's exist to help users incorporate their visualizations into their web applications.