



Introduction to Data Visualisation & Dashboards

A short course on Tableau

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You will need Tableau Desktop 2021 installed for this seminar



Welcome: Learning Objectives & Introductions

About the Instructor

Munish Kumar, PhD, B Eng

Staff Geoscientist (Petrophysicist) – ERCE

- 12 years in oil & gas; worked at ExxonMobil and Total S.A. in strategy, portfolio, planning, upstream exploration, field development and production optimization
- In 2020, joined expert consultancy firm ERCE which provides energy consulting/auditing services (including greenhouse gas evaluation) to oil & gas, law firms, banks, institutional investors etc.

Adjunct Faculty – SUSS

- Data Visualisation for Business
- Python for Business
- Applied Project for Business Analytics

Tools of the trade: Python, Tableau, Power BI, Excel

INTRODUCE YOURSELF

Name

Profession/ What you do/ What you like

Do you currently use visualisation?

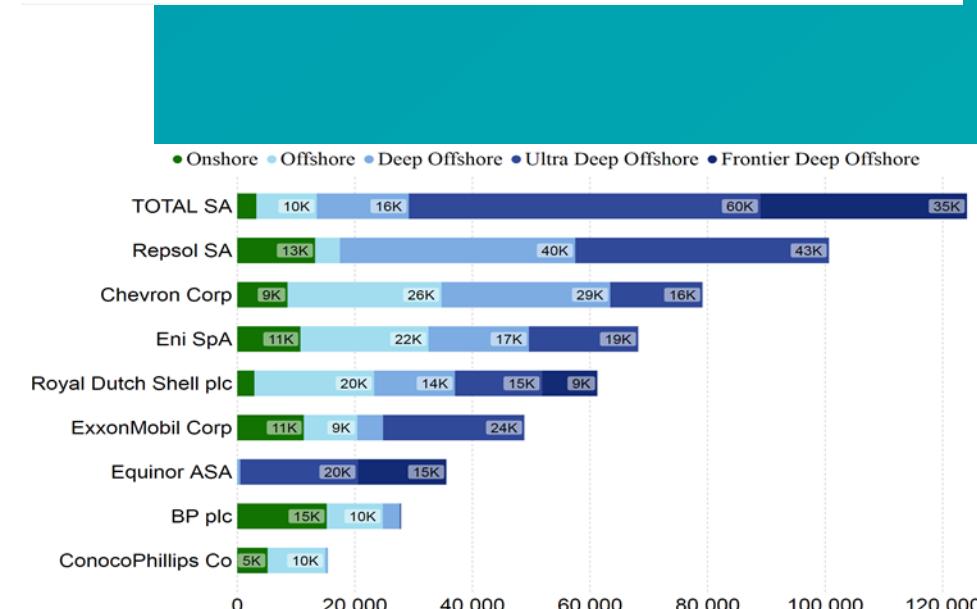
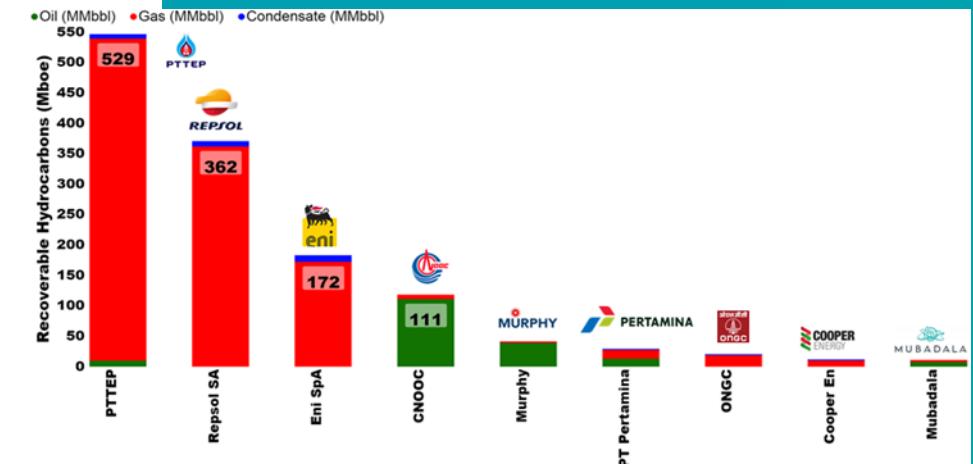
What would be one thing you want to take away from this class?

Learning Objectives

- Understand concepts of Data and Data Visualization
- Stages of Data Visualization Process
- Data Visualization Components
- Design Principles of a Business Performance Dashboard
- Appropriateness of Data Visualization techniques based on available data
- Appropriateness of Business Performance Measure against Business Strategy of Organization

Some Textbooks:

1. Yau, N. (2013). Data Points: Visualization that Means Something
2. Murray, D. G. (2013). Tableau Your Data





Part 1 – Understanding Data

Understanding Data

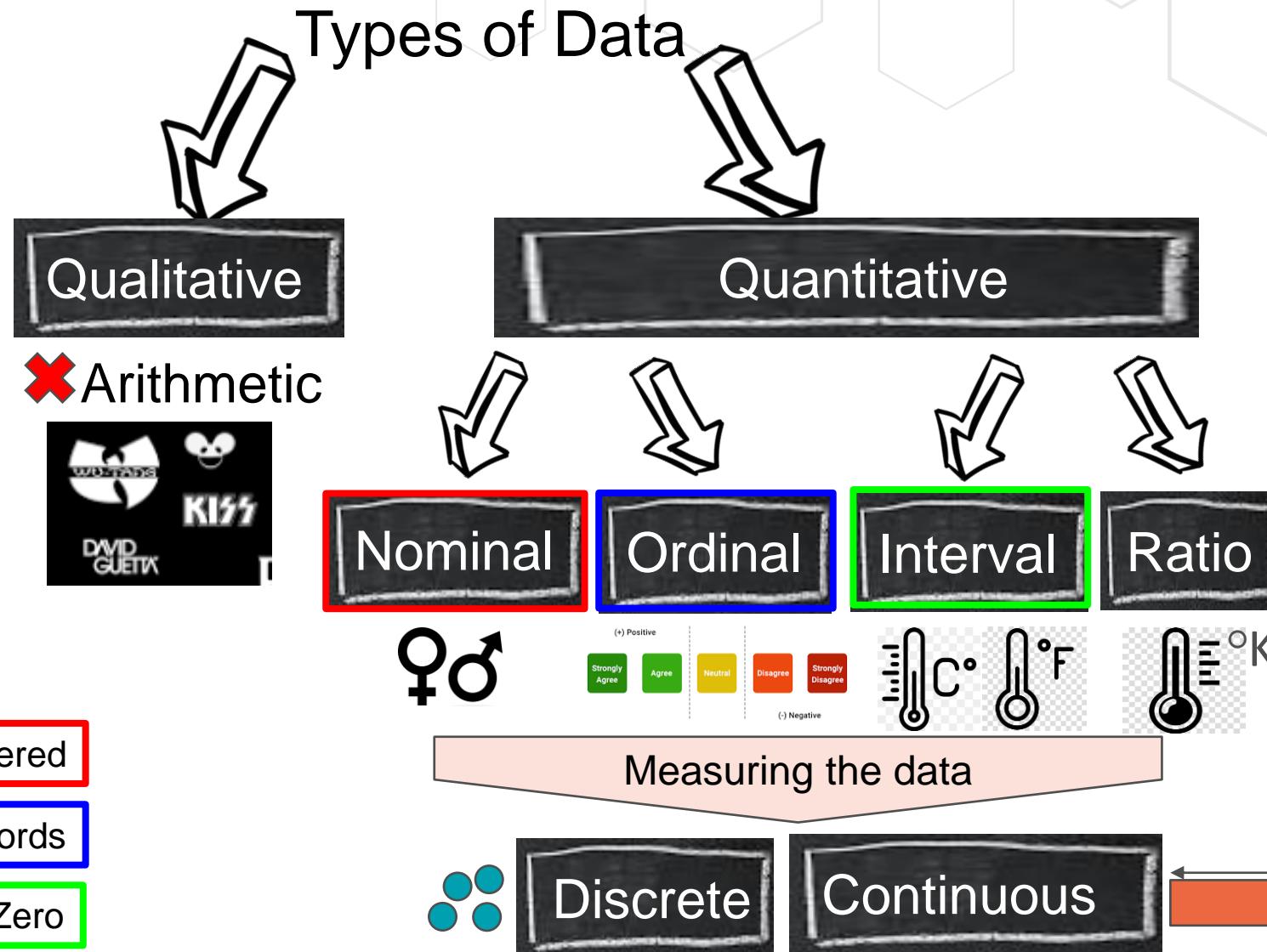
The four measurement levels of data quality attribute

- 1. Nominal** measurements measure items based on their labels or categories or other qualitative classification the items belong to with no implied order
- 2. Ordinal** measurements arise from the operation of rank ordering
- 3. Interval** measurements allow us to measure the degree of difference between items, but not the ratio between them
- 4. Ratio** measurements estimate the ratio between a magnitude of a continuous quantity and a unit magnitude of the same kind

Understanding Types of Data

Tableau refers to interval or ratio data as “measures”.

All others are known as “dimensions”



How Tableau Views Types of Data

- Dimensions contain qualitative values (such as names, dates, or geographical data).
 - Dimensions can categorize, segment, and reveal the details in your data.
 - Dimensions affect the level of detail in the view.
- Measures contain numeric, quantitative values that you can measure.
 - Measures can be aggregated.
 - When you drag a measure into the view, Tableau applies an aggregation to that measure (by default)
- Green measures **SUM(Profit)** and dimensions **YEAR(Order Date)** are continuous. Continuous field values are treated as an infinite range. Generally, continuous fields add axes to the view.
- Blue measures **SUM(Profit)** and dimensions **Product Name** are discrete. Discrete values are treated as finite. Generally, discrete fields add headers to the view.

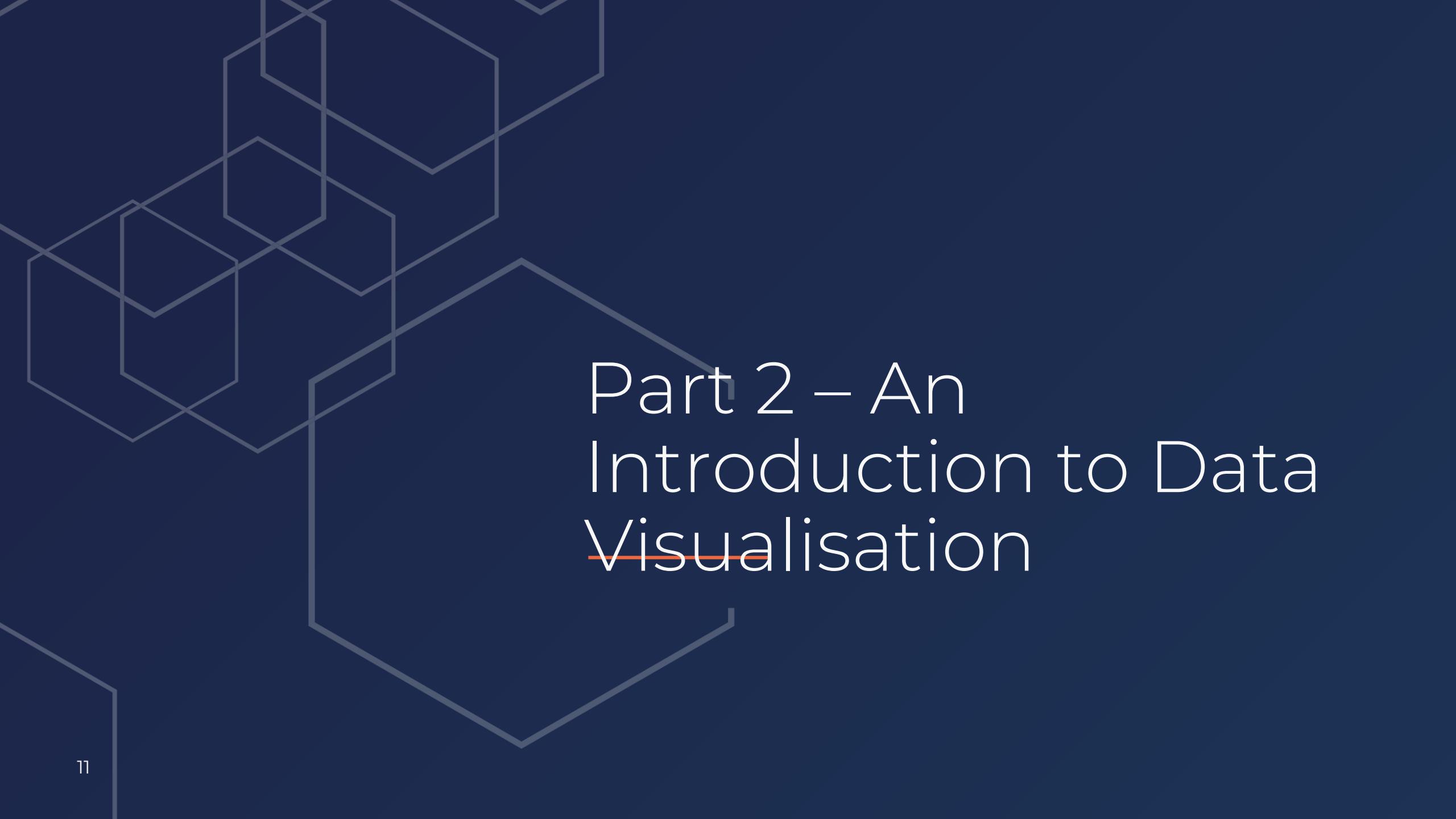
Understanding Data

Metadata

- ▶ Metadata is structured information that explain, describe or locate the original (i.e. also known as primary data), otherwise make the using of original data more efficient

Table Name	Column Name	Column Null	Column Datatype	Primary Key	Foreign Key
SOURCE_AUTO_LOAN_BY_WEB	AUTO_LN_ID	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(20)	Yes	No
	AUTO_LN_AMT				
	AUTO_VIN_ID				
	BOR_FST_NAME				
	BOR_LAST_NAME				
	DATETIMESTAMP				
TARGET_AUTO_LOAN_BY_WEB	AUTO_LN_ID	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(20)	Yes	No
	AUTO_LN_AMT				
	AUTO_LN_BRK_COMIS_AMT				
	AUTO_VIN_ID				
	BOR_FULL_NAME				
	DATETIMESTAMP				

Source: <http://learndatamodeling.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/tmeta.gif>



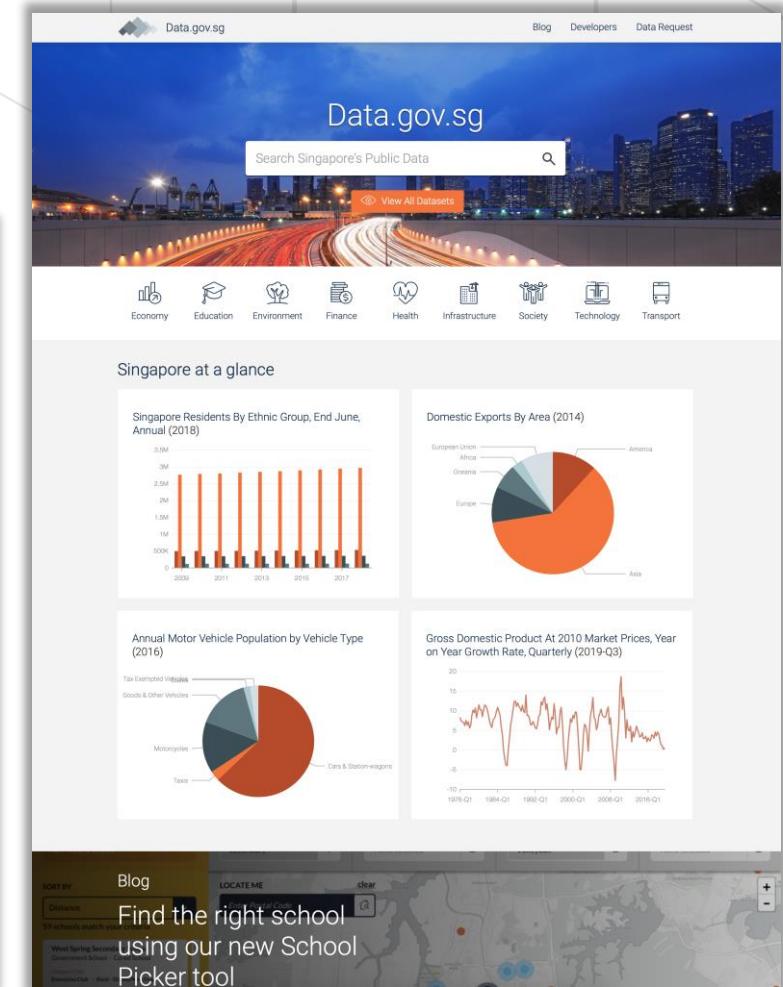
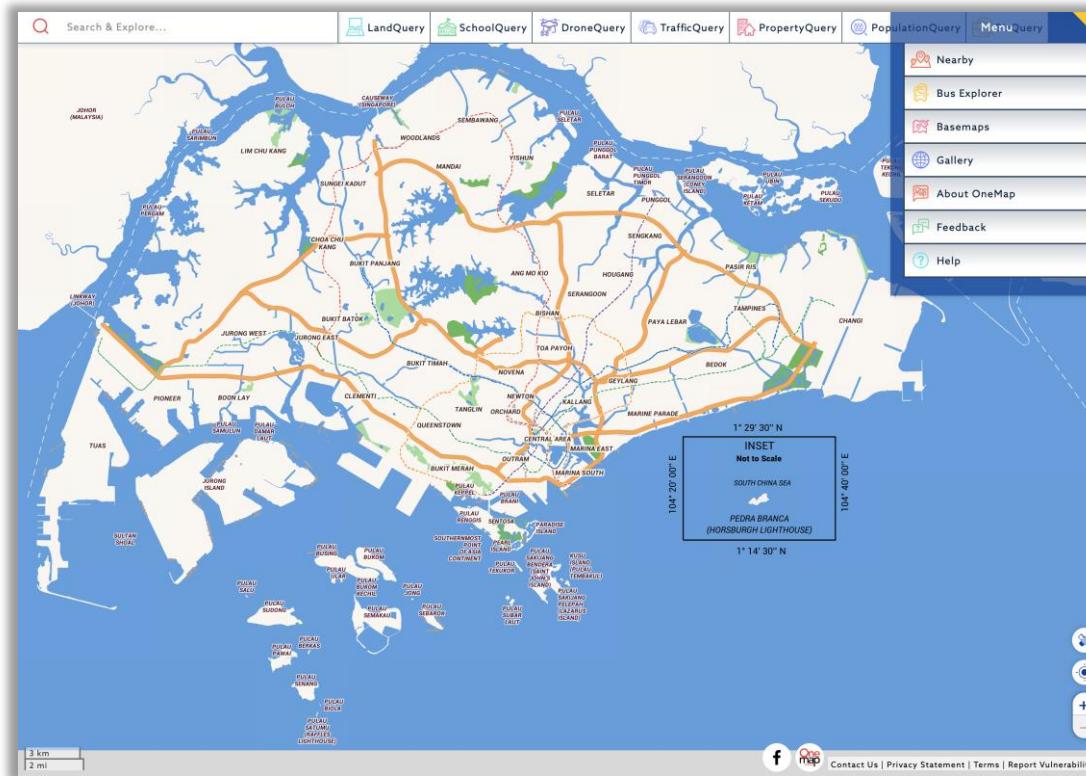
Part 2 – An Introduction to Data Visualisation

Data Visualisation

Overwhelming amount of data available today

A coloured map is essentially millions of data points/measurements.

Overwhelming in an excel sheet, but easy to see if visualized properly



Data Visualisation

The four stages of the data visualisation process

- 1. Data Collection and Storage:** the collection and storage of data
- 2. Data Pre-processing:** the pre-processing of data to transform it into something one can understand
- 3. Graphics Engine:** the display hardware and the graphics algorithms to produce data visualisation on screen
- 4. Human Visual and Cognitive Processing:** human perceptual and cognitive systems that are involved in interpreting the visualised data

Source: Information Visualization: Perception for Design, C. Ware, 2013

Data Visualisation

Benefits

- ▶ Provides us the ability to comprehend huge amounts of data
- ▶ Allows the perception of emergent properties that are not anticipated (e.g. red for danger)
- ▶ Often enable problems with data to become immediately apparent (missing data or blank (pixels))
- ▶ Facilitates the understanding of both large-scale and small-scale features of the data
- ▶ Facilitates hypothesis formation



TIME 
FOR A
BREAK

5 mins

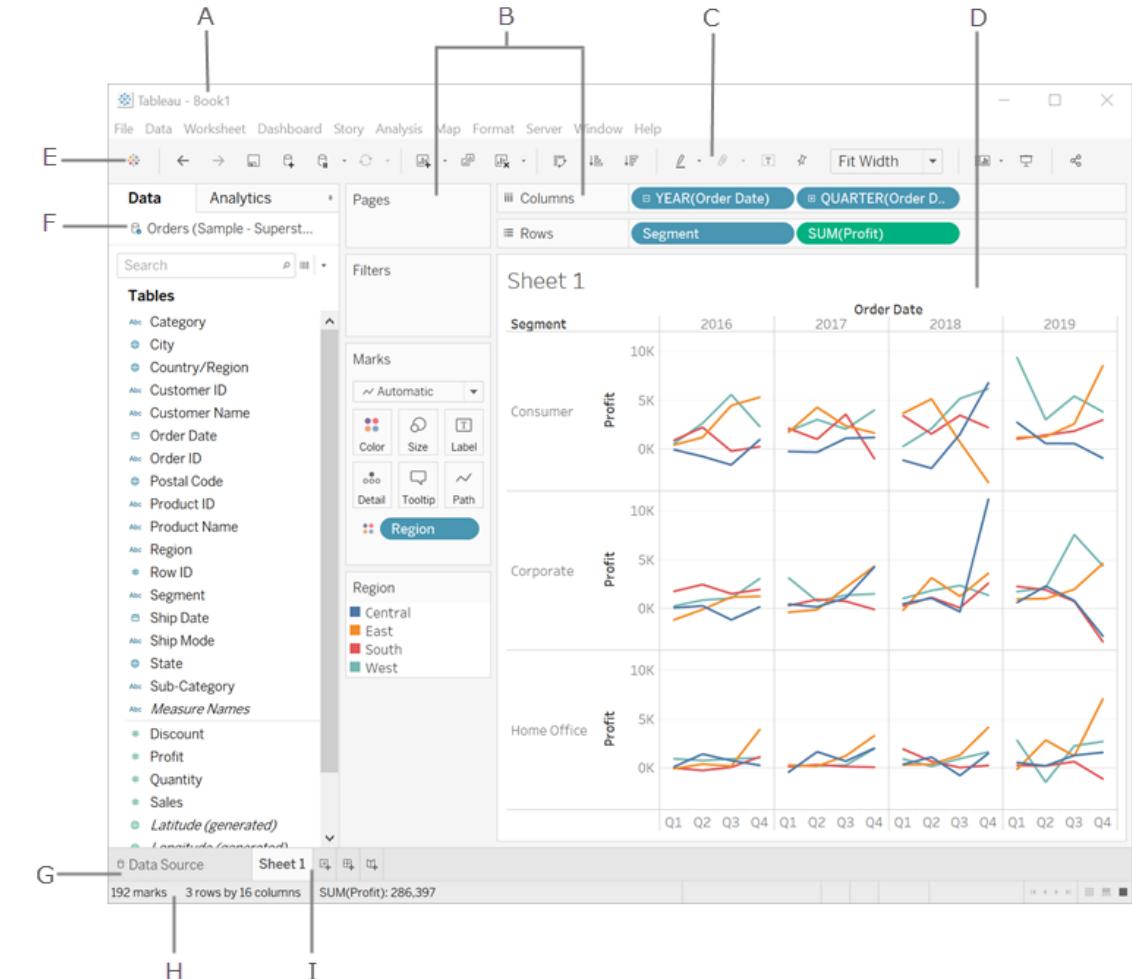


Part 3 – Tableau as a Tool for Business Analytics & Visualisation

Tableau Interface

- A. **Workbook** - contains sheets (either a worksheet, dashboard, or story).
- B. **Cards and shelves** - Drag fields to the cards and shelves in the workspace to add data to your view.
- C. **Toolbar** - To access commands, analysis and navigation tools.
- D. **View** - Workspace (Canvas) to create visualization ("viz").
- E. Click this icon to go to the Start page to connect to data.
- F. **Side Bar**- Contains the **Data pane** and the **Analytics pane**.
- G. Data Source page - view and manipulate your data.
- H. **Status bar** - Displays information about the current view.
- I. **Sheet tabs** - Tabs represent each sheet (worksheets, dashboards, and stories) in your workbook.

Workspace area



Source: https://help.tableau.com/current/pro/desktop/en-us/environment_workspace.htm

Tableau File Extension

File Type	File Extension	Purpose
Tableau Workbook	.twb	It contains information on each sheet and dashboard that is present in a workbook. It has the details of the fields which are used in each view and the formula applied to the aggregation of the measures. It also has the formatting and styles applied. It also contains the data source connection information and any metadata information created for that connection.
Tableau Packaged Workbook	.twbx	This file format contains the details of workbook as well as the local data that is used in the analysis. Its purpose is to be share with other Tableau desktop or Tableau reader users assuming it does not need data from the server.
Tableau Data source	.tds	The details of the connection used to create the tableau report are stored in this file. In the connection details it stores the source type(excel/relational/sap etc.) as well as the data types of the columns.
Tableau Packaged Data source	.tdsx	This file is similar to the .tds file with the addition of data along with the connection details.
Tableau Data Extract	.tde	This file contains the data used in a .twb file in a highly compressed columnar data format. This helps in storage optimization. It also saves the aggregated calculations that are applied in the analysis. This file should be refreshed to get the updated data form the source.

Tableau Speak - Join, Union, Pivot, Relationships & Functions

Union vs Join

Union

Month	Price	Quantity
Jan	5	10



Month	Price	Quantity
Jan	10	20



Month	Price	Quantity
Jan	5	10
Jan	10	20

19

Adding rows to existing data

Join

Month	Price	Quantity
Jan	5	10



Month	Location
Jan	Bedok



Month	Price	Quantity	Location
Jan	5	10	Bedok

Adding Columns to existing data

Tableau Speak – Join Types

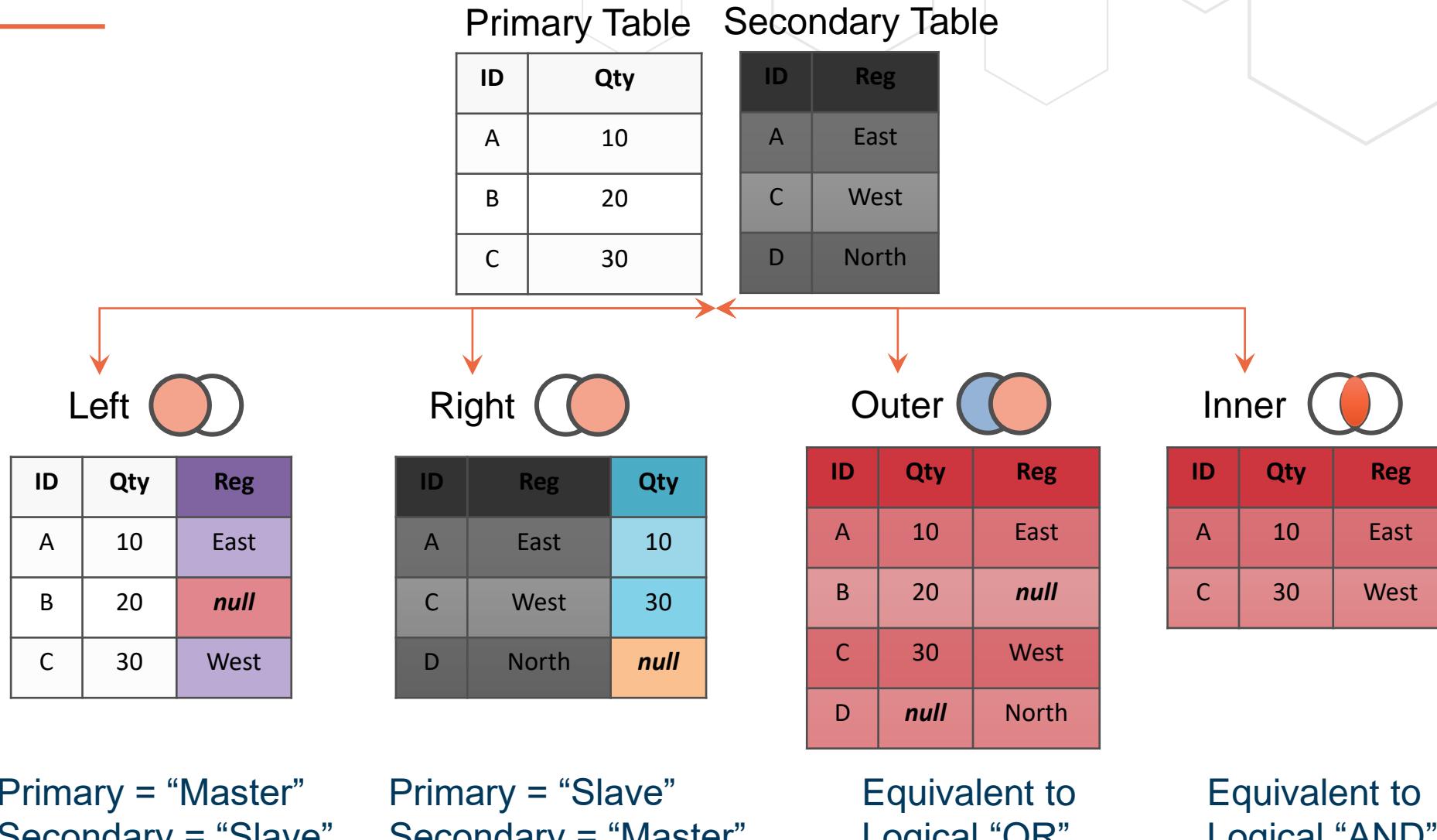
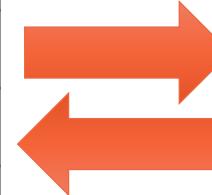


Tableau Speak – Pivot Data & Data Source Grouping

Year	0-4	5-9	10-14
1959	100	200	300
1960	400	0	500
1961	700	100	200



Year	Age Group	Population
1959	0-4	100
1960	0-4	400
1961	0-4	700
1959	5-9	200
1960	5-9	0
1961	5-9	100
1959	10-14	300
1960	10-14	500
1961	10-14	200

Pivoting reduces the number of columns, and increases the number of rows

Sometimes, by grouping data, the data structure and usability improves significantly.

Caveats:

1. Same Datasource
2. Same Connection
3. Excel, Textfile, Google Sheets, .pdf

Tableau Speak – Relationships & Data Blending

Single
Data
Source

Primary Table		Secondary Table	
ID	Qty	ID	Reg
A	10	A	East
B	20	B	West

JOIN

Data Source 1

ID	Qty
A	10
B	20

Data Source 2



ID	Reg
A	East
B	West

RELATIONSHIP

Only Dimensions, not Measures

Tableau Speak – Building Blocks & Syntax for Data Source Manipulation with Calculated Fields

Roll	Student	Grade
1	Ali	80
2	Benny	40
3	Carrie	60
4	Daffy	50

```
IF [GRADE] > 50  
THEN "PASS"  
ELSE "FAIL"  
END
```

Calculated
PAS
FAIL
PASS
FAIL

Functions

Number

$\text{ABS}(-3) = 3$

Strings

$\text{Len}("Ali") = 3$

Type Conversion

$\text{INT}(50.1) = 50$

Logical

$\text{IF } [\text{Ali}] \text{ THEN "Pass"}$

Fields

[GRADE]

Operators

>

Literal Expressions

"PASS"

Tableau Speak – Table Join

The screenshot shows the Tableau Data Source interface for the "Global Superstore 2016" connection. On the left, under "Connections", "Global Superstore 2016" is selected. Under "Sheets", "Orders" is selected. A modal dialog titled "Join" is open between the "Orders" and "Returns" tables. The dialog shows four join types: Inner, Left, Right, and Full Outer. The "Inner" join is selected. Below the join type, there is a "Data Source" section with fields "Order ID" and "Order ID (Retu...)" separated by an equals sign, and a link "Add new join clause...". At the bottom of the dialog are "Sort" and "OK" buttons. The main pane shows the "Orders" table with columns: Row ID, Order ID, Order Date, Shipping Date, and Ship Mode. The first three rows of data are visible.

Row ID	Order ID	Order Date	Shipping Date	Ship Mode
30191	IN-2012-PB1921012...	16/12/2012	19/12/2012	First Class
30190	IN-2012-PB1921012...	16/12/2012	19/12/2012	First Class
25438	IN-2015-JH158207-4...	16/5/2015	18/5/2015	Second Class

Tableau Speak – Cross-database Join

The screenshot shows the Tableau Data Source interface. On the left, the 'Connections' pane lists 'Sales 2016' (Microsoft Excel) and 'Products 2016' (Text file). The 'Sheets' pane shows 'Sheet1' and 'New Union'. In the center, under 'Sales and Products 2016', there is a diagram of a cross-database join between 'Sales' (represented by a blue circle) and 'Products 2016.csv' (represented by an orange rectangle). Below the diagram is a preview of the data in 'Products 2016.csv':

Category1	Sub-Category1	Product Name	Row ID	Order ID
Furniture	Bookcases	Atlantic Metals Mobi...	34320	CA-2015
Furniture	Bookcases	Atlantic Metals Mobi...	33522	CA-2014

Tableau Speak – Data Blending

The screenshot shows the Tableau interface with a focus on data blending. On the left, the 'Connections' pane lists an existing connection named 'Office City' (Microsoft Excel). Below it, the 'Sheets' section includes a checkbox for 'Use Data Interpreter' with a descriptive note about its functionality. Under 'New Union', there is a link to 'Purchases'. On the right, the 'Data Blending' interface is displayed, showing a dropdown menu for 'Office City' which includes 'Coffee Chain', 'Office City' (selected), and 'New Data Source'. A sub-menu for 'Purchases' is also visible. At the bottom, a preview of the data is shown in a grid format:

Customer Name	Goods Category	Goods Sub-Category
nice Fletcher	Office Supplies	Labels

Tableau Speak – Pivot Data from Columns to Rows (or v.v.)

Pivot from wide to long format

Employee	1/1/15	1/2/15	1/3/15	1/4/15	1/5/15	1/6/15	1/7/15	1/8/15	1/9/15	1/10/15	1/11/15	1/12/15
B-002	4	1	5	2	3	0	3	1	2	0	2	5
E-055	1	2	1	3	4	1	4	0	2	1	4	0
E-075	14	17	16	15	18	16	14	17	12	13	14	12
B-066	4	4	5	2	5	0	0	2	0	1	0	3
C-025	17	13	17	18	17	17	12	15	17	17	14	15
E-030	2	2	1	1	0	3	5	5	0	2	4	1
C-001	14	14	14	14	13	18	17	14	13	18	15	14
E-038	4	1	0	4	0	2	5	0	2	2	2	2
C-054	2	5	4	4	2	3	0	5	5	5	3	5
A-081	3	2	4	5	2	2	2	4	1	4	2	0
B-031	14	14	14	14	15	13	15	14	12	16	12	18
D-019	2	3	0	0	4	4	1	2	5	0	5	5
E-096	2	0	4	4	5	3	3	0	5	4	2	0
D-026	0	2	0	2	5	3	1	0	0	2	5	4
E-022	3	3	4	3	4	2	0	3	2	3	3	1
C-015	1	5	3	5	2	1	3	3	1	1	5	2
B-062	14	12	16	16	16	18	12	12	18	16	12	17
E-029	5	1	2	4	0	3	5	4	5	3	4	5
A-037	2	2	0	2	3	4	2	0	2	1	2	2
E-087	14	17	13	17	18	13	13	12	13	16	13	16
C-040	5	0	4	5	3	5	2	1	1	4	2	1
A-077	3	5	3	5	2	3	5	3	4	5	4	4
C-041	18	18	15	15	15	17	17	12	18	17	16	16
D-005	4	0	5	3	2	3	5	1	0	2	3	3
E-046	12	13	14	17	16	14	14	18	13	16	15	17
C-053	2	5	5	0	2	1	0	4	5	1	1	3



Pivot Date	# Pivot	Resolved Incidents	Employee
1/1/2015			B-002
1/1/2015			E-055
1/1/2015			E-075-II
1/1/2015			B-066
1/1/2015			C-025-II
1/1/2015			E-030
1/1/2015			C-001-II
1/1/2015			E-038
1/1/2015			C-054
1/1/2015			A-081
1/1/2015			B-031-II



Pivot from long to wide format

Tableau Speak – Split

Split “Employee” column:

Abc Resolved Incidents Employee	=Abc Calculation Location	=Abc Calculation Employee ID	=Abc Calculation Tier
B-002	B	002	
E-055	E	055	
E-075-II	E	075	II
B-066	B	066	
C-025-II	C	025	II
E-030	E	030	
C-001-II	C	001	II
E-038	E	038	
C-054	C	054	
A-081	A	081	

Tableau Speak – Calculation: Aggregate VS Record-Level

Average Order Sales

`SUM([Sales])/COUNTD([Order ID])`

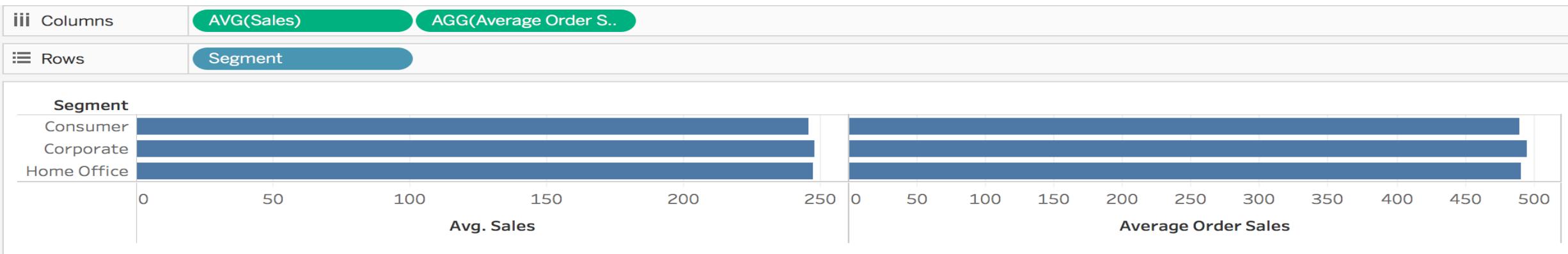
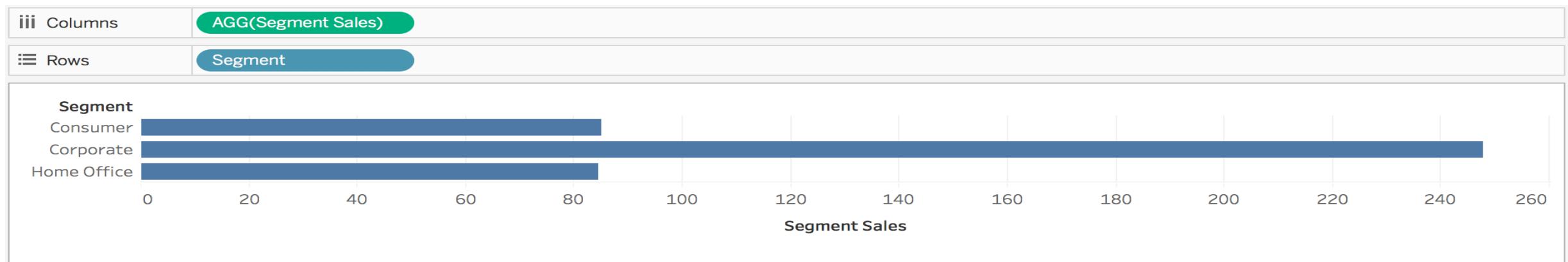


Tableau Speak – Aggregate Functions

1. Aggregation of a measure
2. Aggregation of a dimension

Segment Sales

```
IF ATTR([Segment]) = "Corporate"  
THEN AVG([Sales])  
ELSE MEDIAN([Sales])  
END
```



Lets



- ▶ Ensure that you have the following datasets downloaded onto your computer:
 1. global_superstore_2016.xlsx
 2. Sales 2016.xlsx
 3. Products 2016.csv
 4. Coffee Chain.xlsx
 5. Office City.xlsx

With

+ tableau
the **<no>code** course

Tableau Class Activity

- Import Excel data:
global_superstore_2016.xlsx (orders)
- Import office city.xlsx
and coffee chain.xlsx
- Build a simple
worksheet/ report

The screenshot shows the Tableau Data Source interface. At the top, there are navigation icons: a gear, back, forward, refresh, and a square. Below them, the 'Connections' section shows a connection named 'global_superstore_2016' (Excel). The 'Sheets' section lists four sheets: 'Orders', 'People', 'Returns', and 'New Union'. There is also a checkbox for 'Use Data Interpreter' with a descriptive note below it. At the bottom right, there are buttons for 'Sort fields' and 'Data source order'.

Orders (global_superstore_2016)

Orders

Tableau Class Activity

- Import Excel data:
office city.xlsx and
coffee chain.xlsx
- Create a calculated
field:
 - For each state,
calculate
combined sales
 - Percent of Total

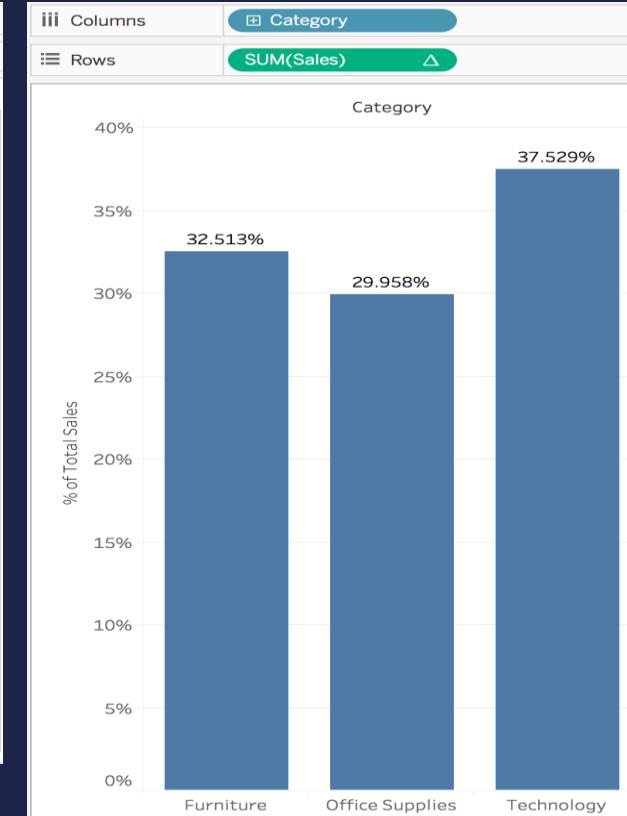


Tableau Class Activity

- Using office city.xlsx and coffee chain.xlsx
- Create a calculated field:
 - Running Total
 - Running total for each year (Is the chart correct?)

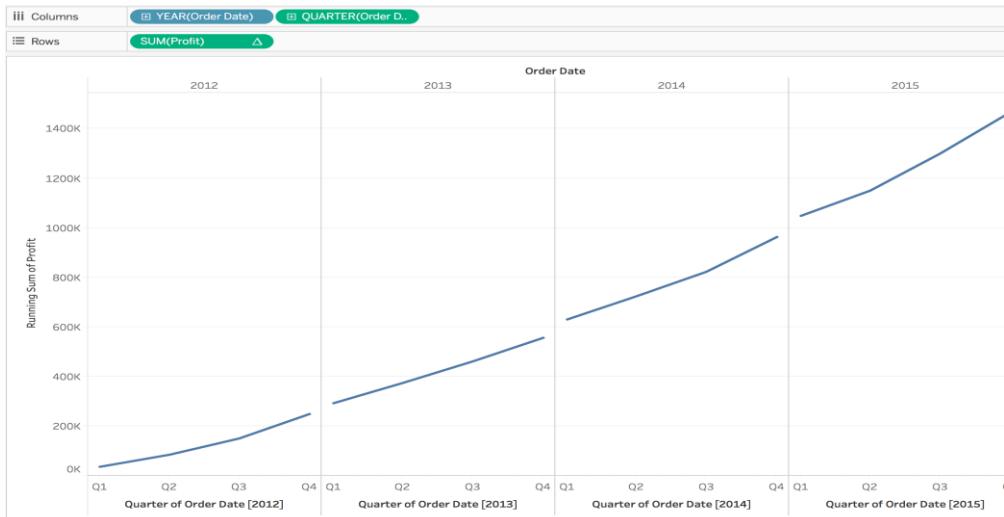
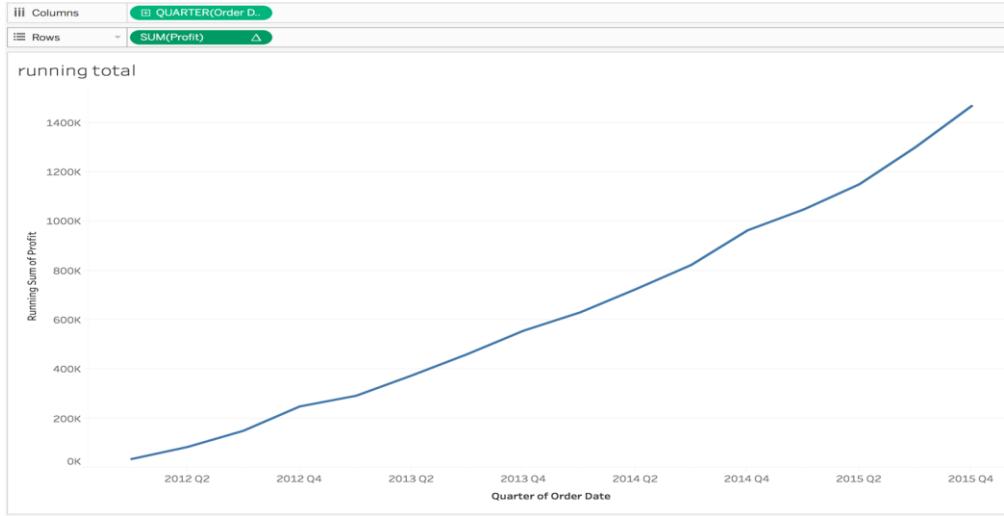


Tableau Class Activity

- Using office city.xlsx and coffee chain.xlsx
- Create a calculated field:
 - Running total for each year (done correctly)

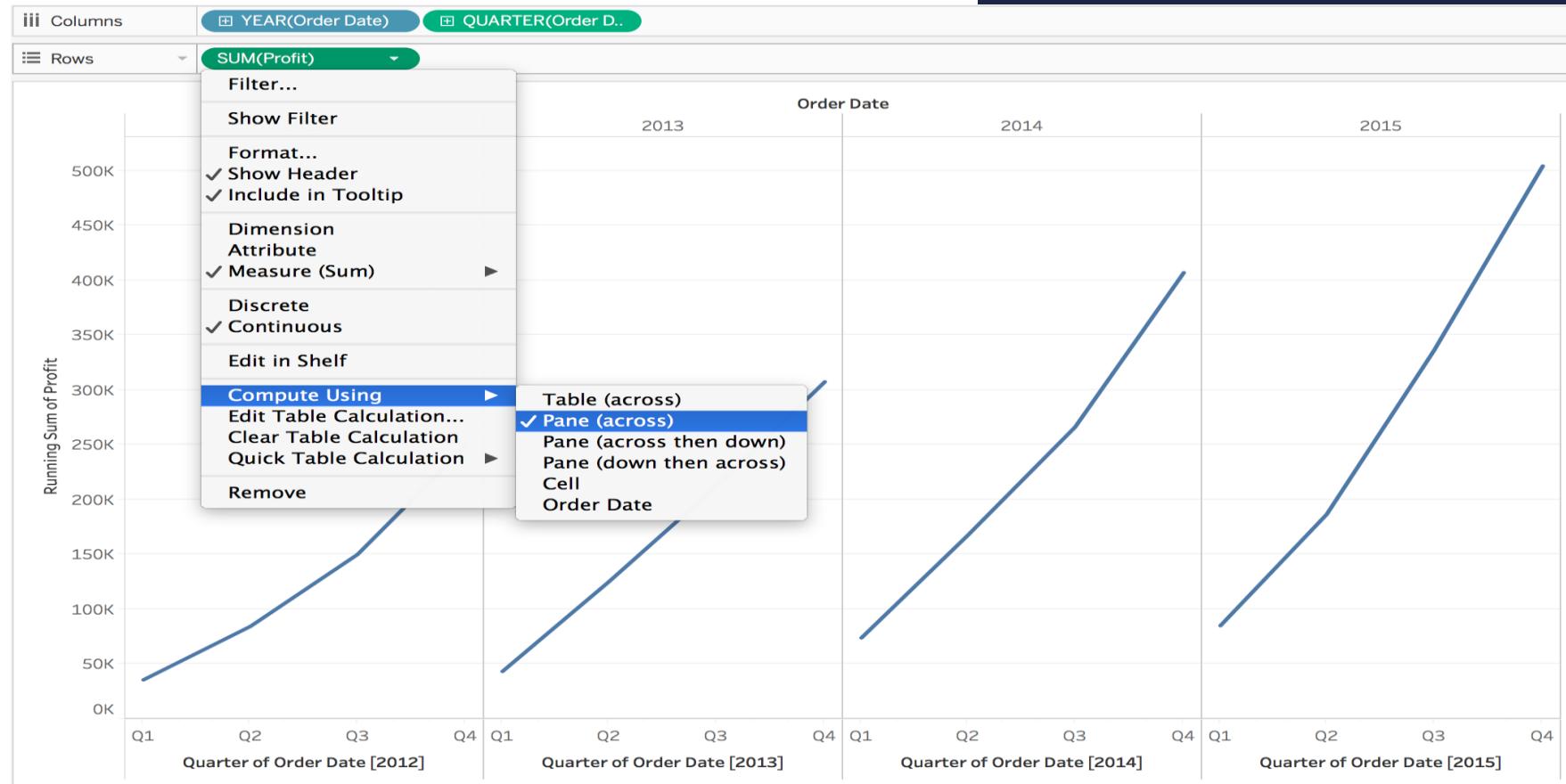


Tableau Class Activity

- Using office city.xlsx and coffee chain.xlsx
- Create some Quick Table Calculations:
 - Compare "Compute Using"

The screenshot shows a Tableau visualization with a treemap layout. The main view displays sales data categorized into Furniture, Office Supplies, Technology, and other items. The 'Category' dimension is on the Rows shelf, and 'Sub-Category' is on the Columns shelf. The 'SUM(Sales)' measure is displayed in the 'Text' mark type. The 'Automatic' color palette is used.

Category	Sub-Categories	Sales (%)
Furniture	Bookcases, Chairs, Furnishings, Tables	11.60%, 11.88%, 3.05%, 5.99%
Office Supplies	Appliances, Art, Binders, Envelopes, Fasteners, Labels, Paper, Storage, Supplies	7.99%, 2.94%, 3.65%, 1.34%, 0.71%, 0.58%, 1.91%, 8.91%, 1.92%
Technology	Accessories, Copiers, Machines, Phones	5.93%, 11.94%, 6.16%, 13.50%
Grand Total		100.00%

The screenshot shows a Tableau visualization titled 'Sheet 2'. The main view displays a table of data with columns for Quarter, Segment, and years 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015. A 'YEAR(Order Date)' dimension is on the Rows shelf, and 'QUARTER(Order Date)' and 'Segment' are on the Columns shelf. The 'SUM(Profit)' measure is displayed in the 'Text' mark type. The 'Automatic' color palette is used.

Quarte..	Segment	2012	2013	2014	2015
Q1	Consumer	15,783	39,239	80,536	127,822
	Corporate	14,220	27,424	45,015	65,094
	Home Office	5,732	12,467	27,585	45,329
Q2	Consumer	25,734	75,010	126,495	180,640
	Corporate	18,423	40,250	69,574	101,722
	Home Office	4,640	15,187	27,814	43,036
Q3	Consumer	34,529	82,576	134,172	201,652
	Corporate	20,048	44,427	75,475	124,363
	Home Office	10,961	25,470	41,619	74,810
Q4	Consumer	41,292	86,312	150,361	239,126
	Corporate	32,056	63,203	110,947	150,029
	Home Office	25,524	44,792	73,697	113,834

Table Calculation
Running Sum of Profit

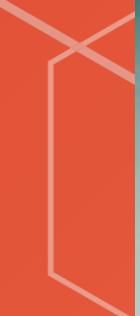
Calculation Type
Running Total
Sum

Compute Using
Table (across)
Table (down)
Table (across then down)
Table (down then across)
Pane (down)
Pane (across then down)
Pane (down then across)
Cell
Specific Dimensions

Year of Order Date
 Quarter of Order Date
 Segment

Restarting every _____

Add secondary calculation
 Show calculation assistance



TIME 
FOR A
BREAK

5 mins



Part 4 – Basic Data Visualisation

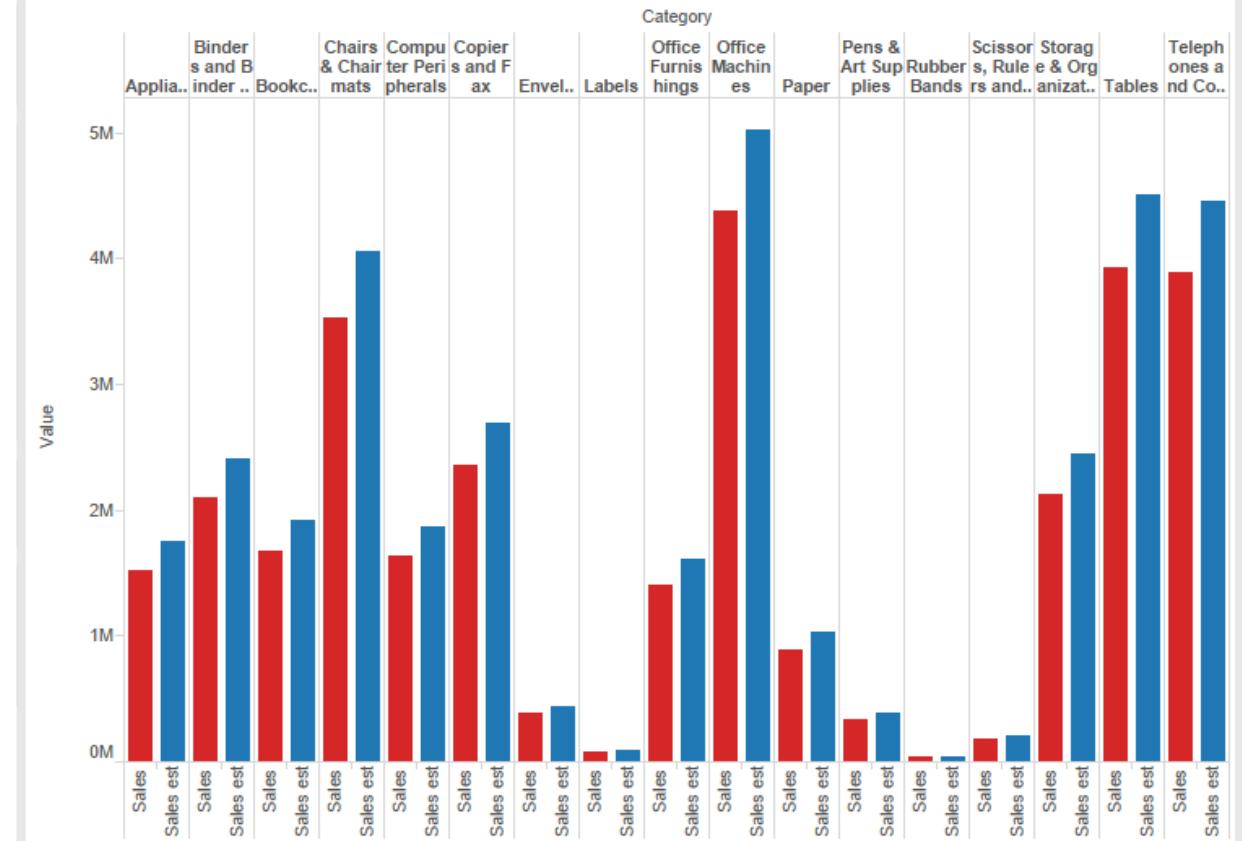
Visualisation of Categorical Data

- ▶ Bar / Stacked Bar Chart
- ▶ Side-by-side Bar Chart
- ▶ Pie Chart
- ▶ Area Chart
- ▶ Heat Map
- ▶ Tree Map

Visualisation of Categorical Data

Side-by-side (i.e., grouped) bar chart

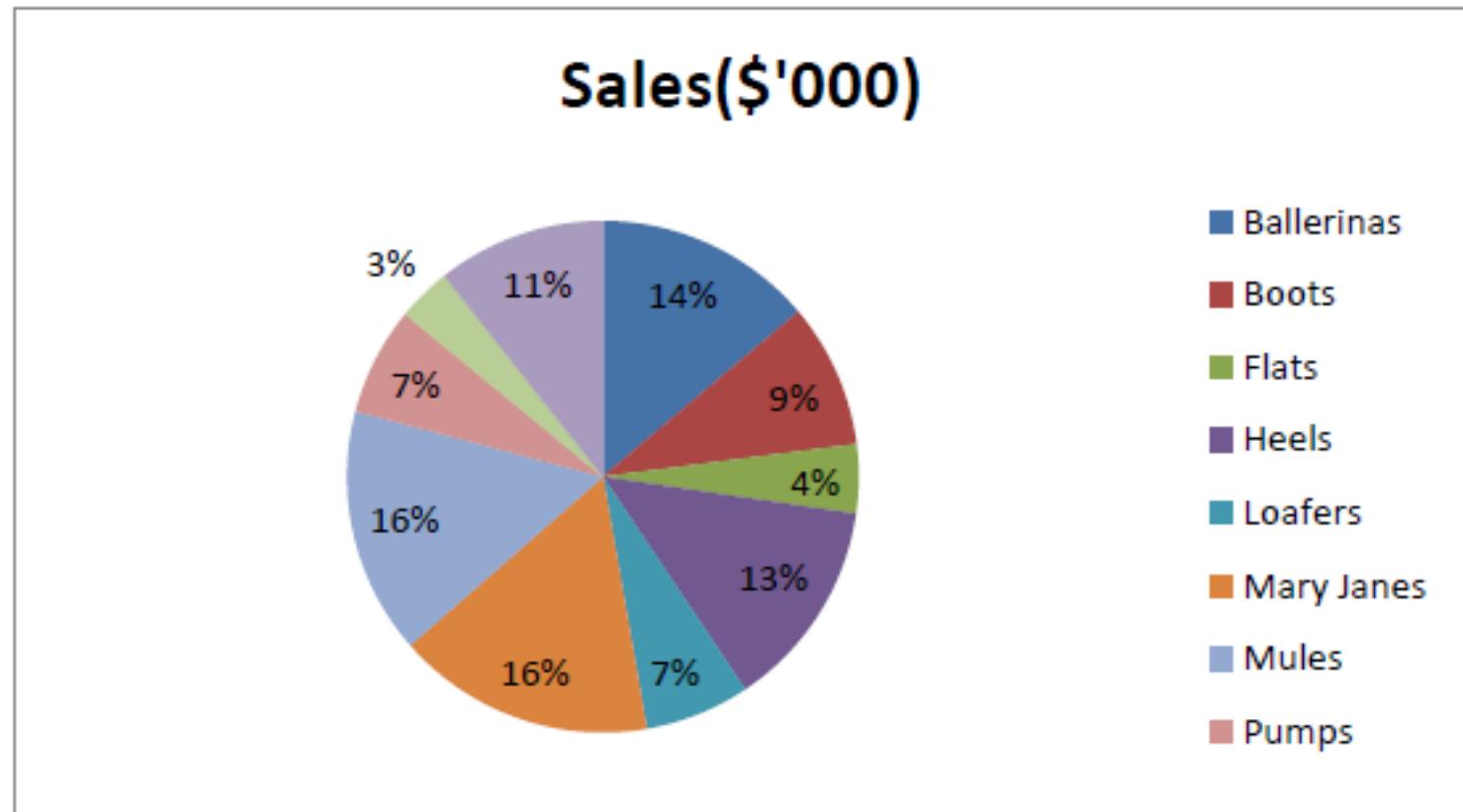
1. Drag two or more measures into either the worksheet's columns or rows.
2. Measure Values and Measure Names will then be created automatically.
 - Measure Names and Measure Values can be used to express various measures in a data set or multiple measures on a single axis.
 - Measure Values contains the data while Measure Names is used to separate the bars used on the marks



Visualisation of Categorical Data

Pie chart

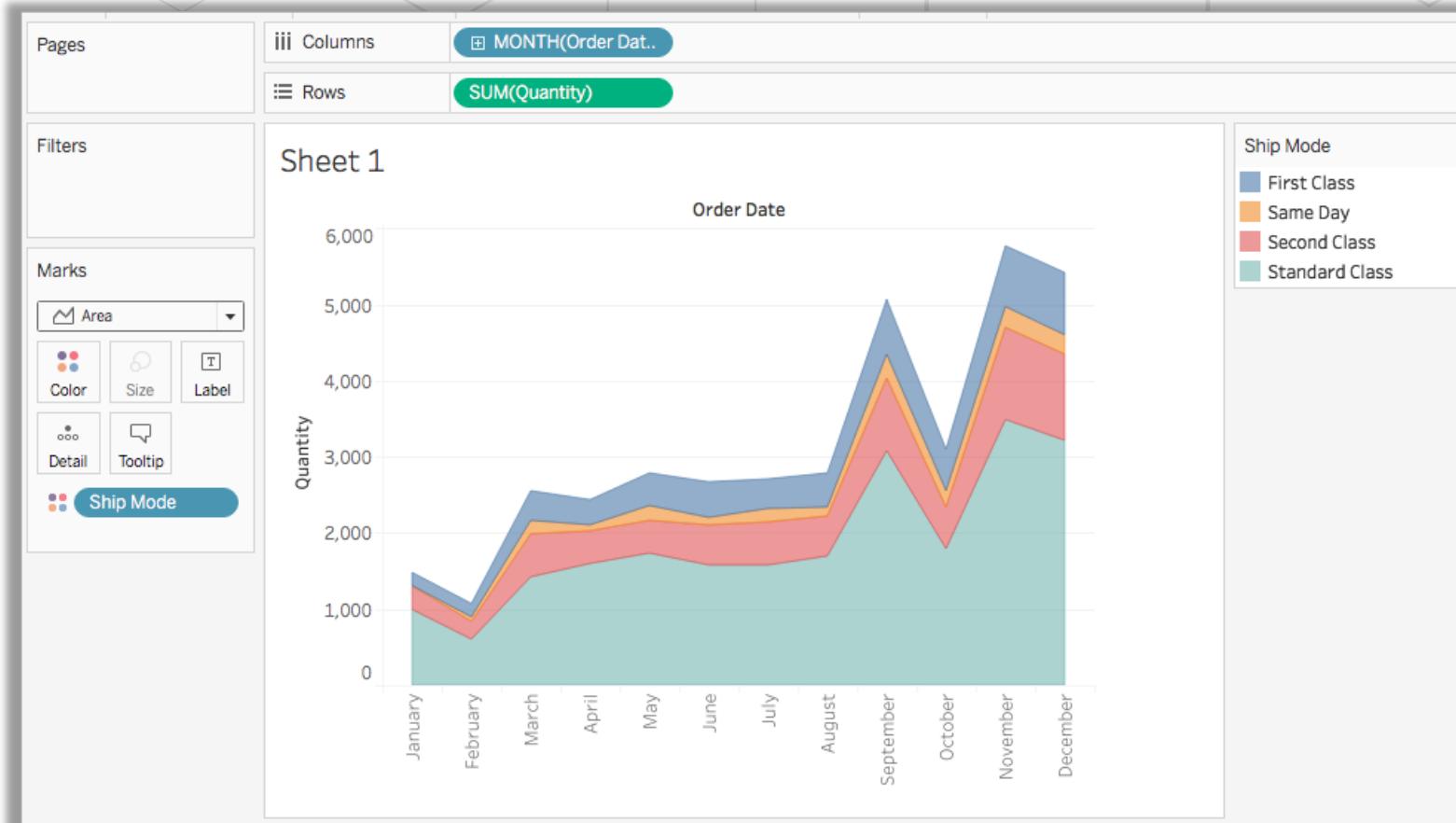
1. Pie Chart should be used to get a general sense of magnitude, but not for precise comparisons.
2. A pie chart is limited by its area meaning that if you have many categories, you have many slivers and it's hard to compare.



Visualisation of Categorical Data

Area chart

1. Area Fill chart plots values as bands, thus it is easy to misinterpret the top band as being the largest value in a data set.
2. The Area Fill Chart is best used to plot a single dimension to avoid such misinterpretation.



Visualisation of Categorical Data

Heat maps

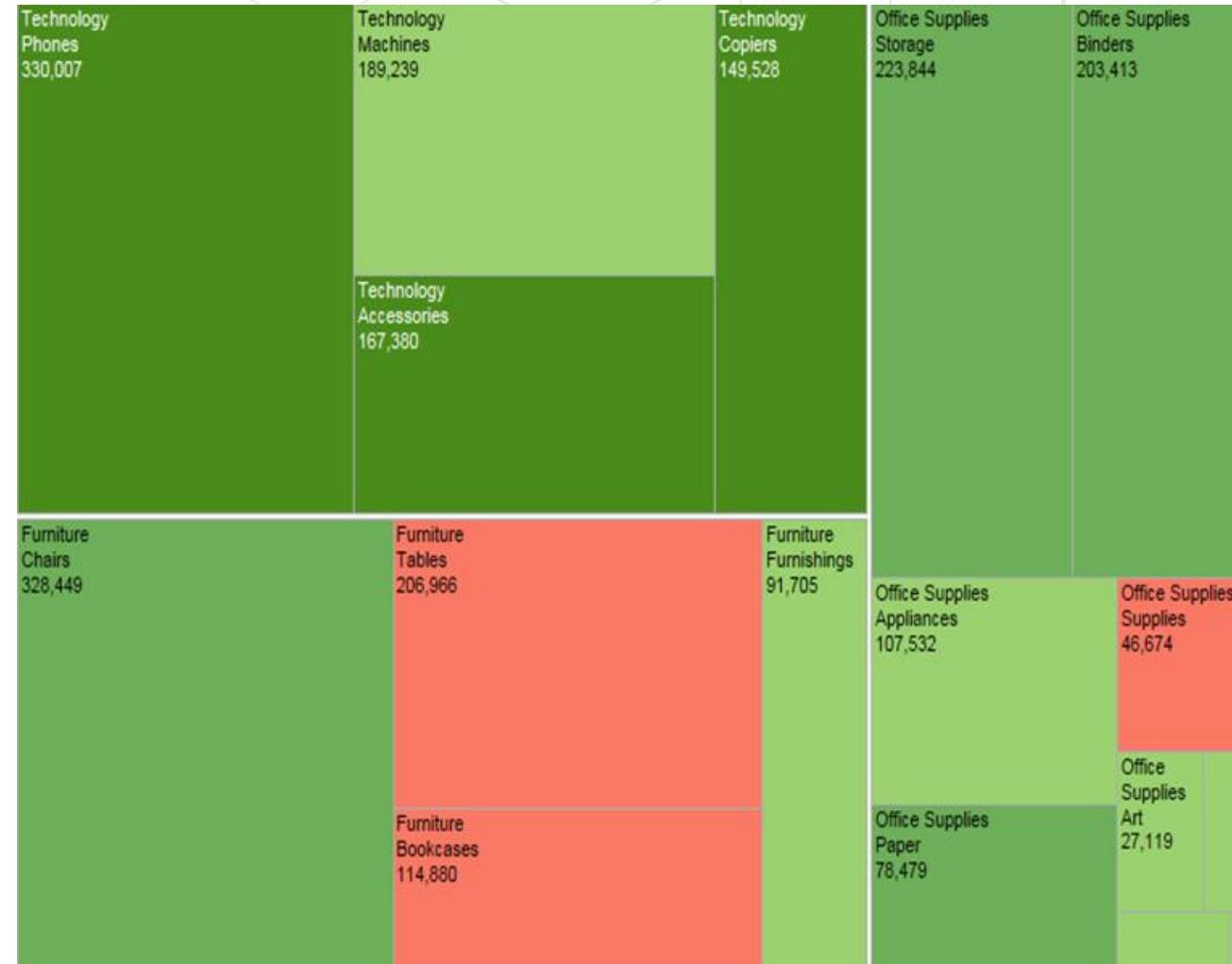
1. Heat Maps use colours and sizes to compare up to two measures.

Category	Sub-Category	Central			East			South			West		
		2012	2013	2014	2012	2013	2014	2012	2013	2014	2012	2013	2014
Furniture	Bookcases	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Chairs	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Furnishings	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Tables	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Office Supplies	Appliances	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Art	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Binders	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Envelopes	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Fasteners	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Labels	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Paper	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Storage	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Supplies	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Technology	Accessories	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Copiers	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Machines	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Phones	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

Visualisation of Categorical Data

Tree maps

1. Tree maps effectively
 - display larger dimension sets using colours and sizes to display one or more dimensions, and up to two measures.



Visualisation of Time Series Data

Discrete (bucketed) time series data

- ▶ Discrete time series data values are from specific points or blocks of time, and there is a finite number of possible values
- ▶ A **line chart** is the most effective way to display time series data. A line chart for discrete time series data places breaks between time units like year, quarter, month and day
- ▶ Bar, stacked bar charts, and scatterplots can also be used to display time series data

The power of “Time Series Analysis” lies in looking for trends in temporal data and forecasting i.e., based on what I see in the past, can I predict the future? Is this pattern seasonal/cyclical?

A whole picture view is more important than the individual data points

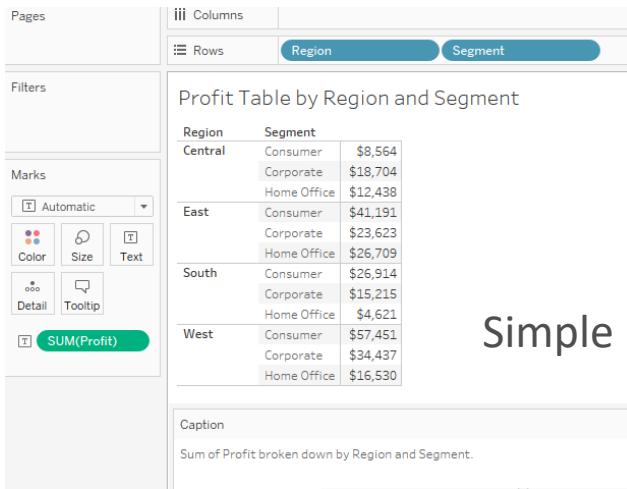
Let's
Practice
With
+ tableau

the
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course

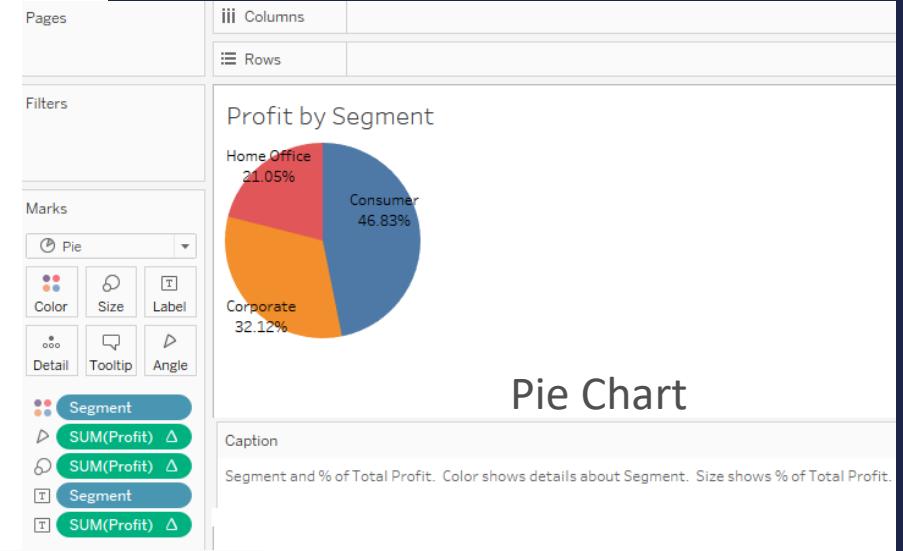
Tableau Class Activity

- Using Excel data:
global_superstore_2
016.xlsx (orders)

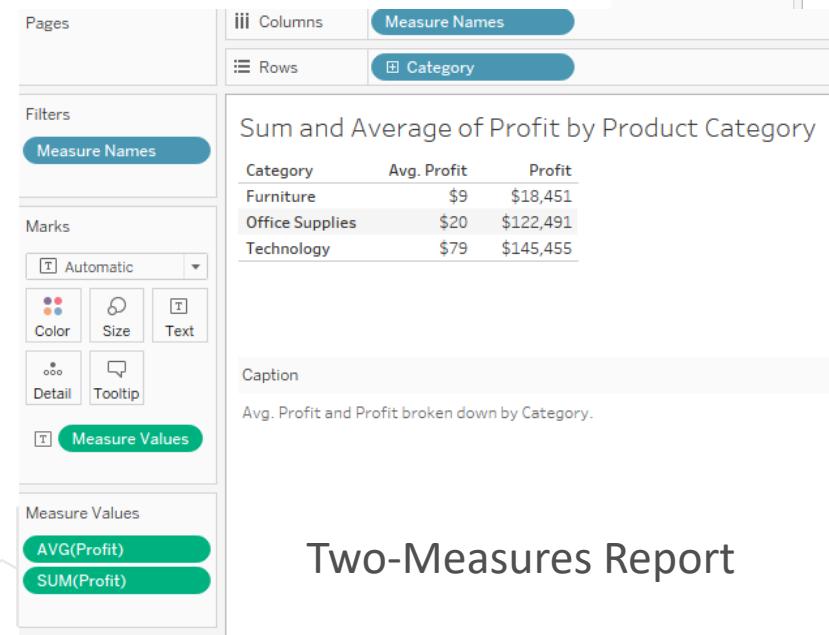
- Create the following
 - Simple report
 - Two measures report
 - Pie chart



Simple Report



Pie Chart



Two-Measures Report

Tableau Class Activity

- Using Excel data:
global_superstore_2
016.xlsx (orders)
- Create the following
 - Bar chart with reference line
 - Stacked bar chart

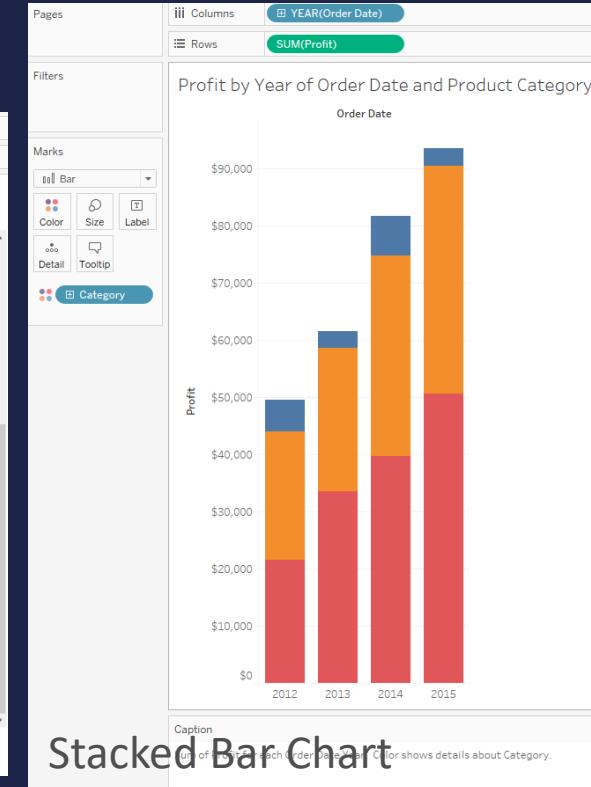
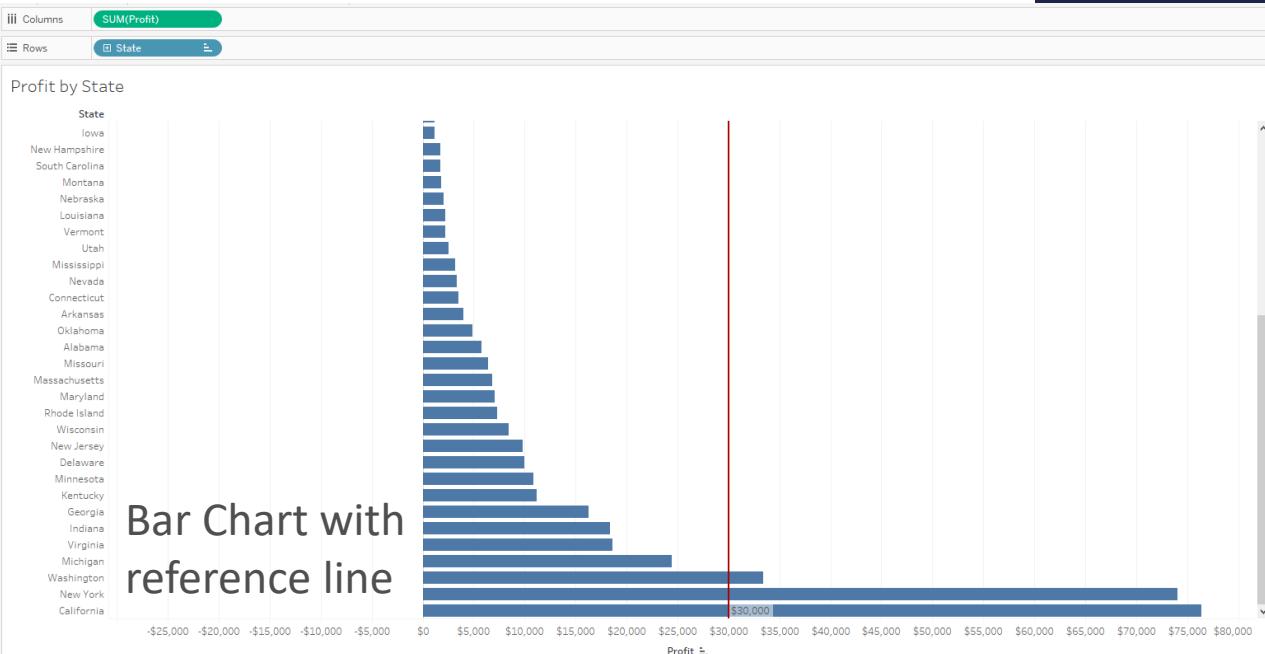


Tableau Class Activity

- Using Excel data:
global_superstore_2
016.xlsx (orders)

- Create the following
 - Line chart with trend line
 - Line chart with 2 axis

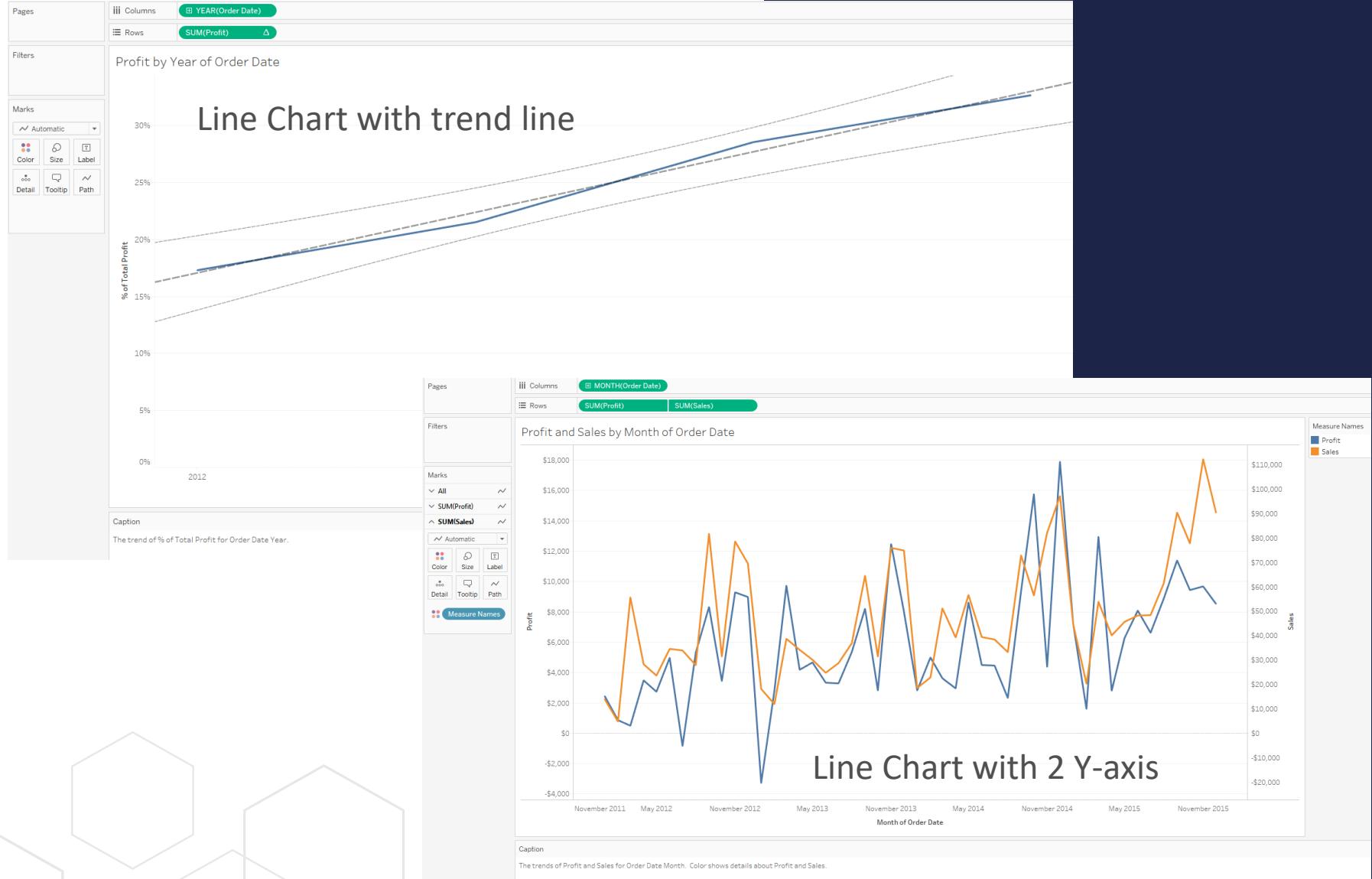


Tableau Class Activity

- Using Excel data:
global_superstore_2
016.xlsx (orders)

- Create the following
 - Area chart
 - Bullet chart

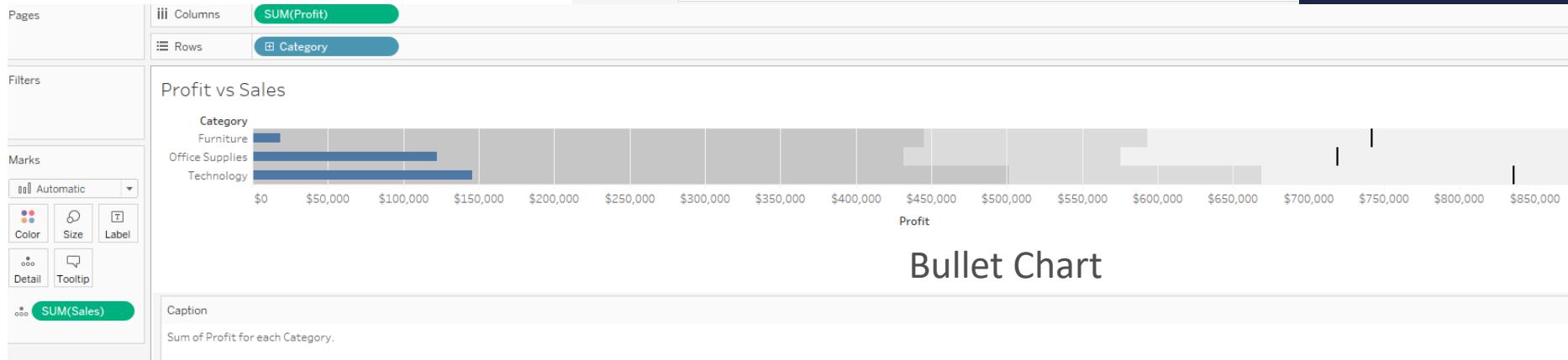
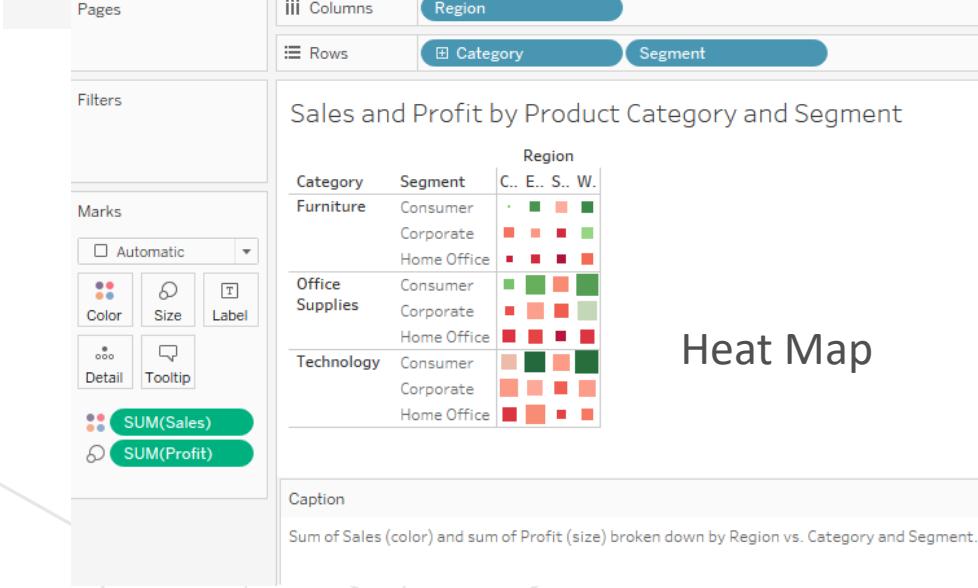
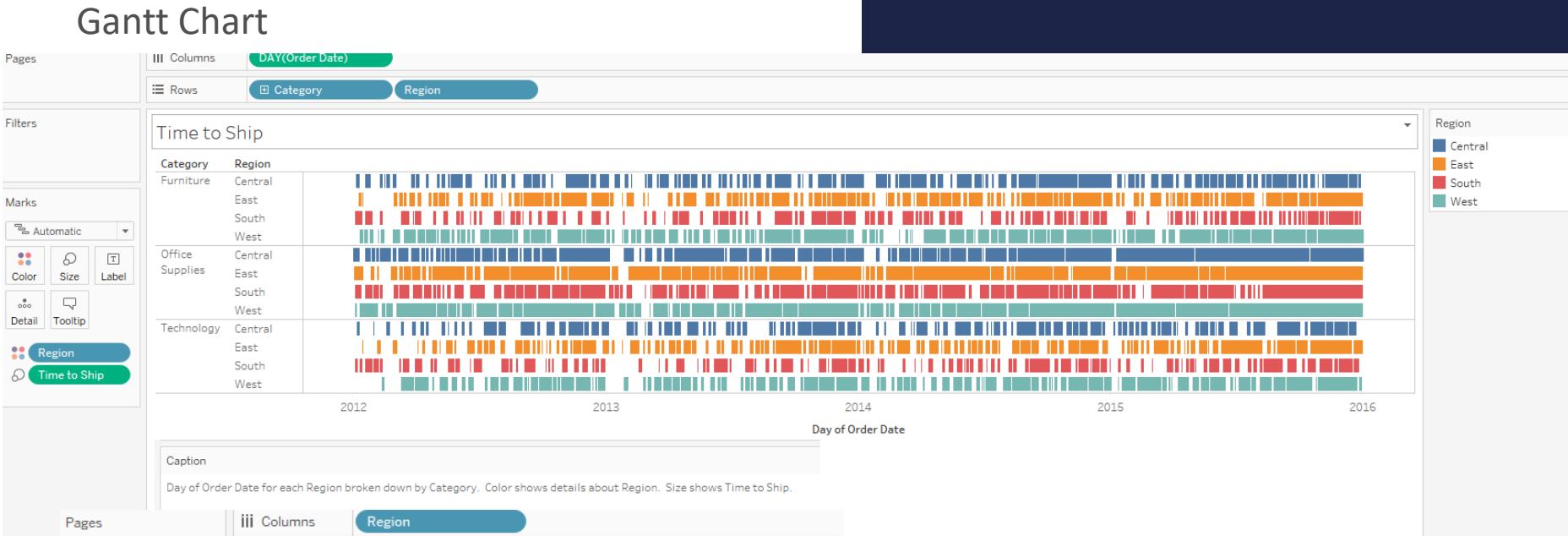


Tableau Class Activity

- Using Excel data:
global_superstore_2
016.xlsx (orders)
- Create the following
 - Gantt chart
 - Heat Map



Visualisation of Time Series Data

Continuous (unbroken) time series data

- ▶ Visualising continuous time series data is similar to visualising discrete time series data. We still have a discrete number of data points, even if the dataset is continuous
- ▶ **Line chart** for continuous time series data is presented as unbroken lines
- ▶ **Step charts** are appropriate if the measure stays at a value for a long time and all of a sudden declines or inclines
- ▶ **Trendlines** are useful in the presence of noisy data or large amounts of data

Visualisation of Time Series Data

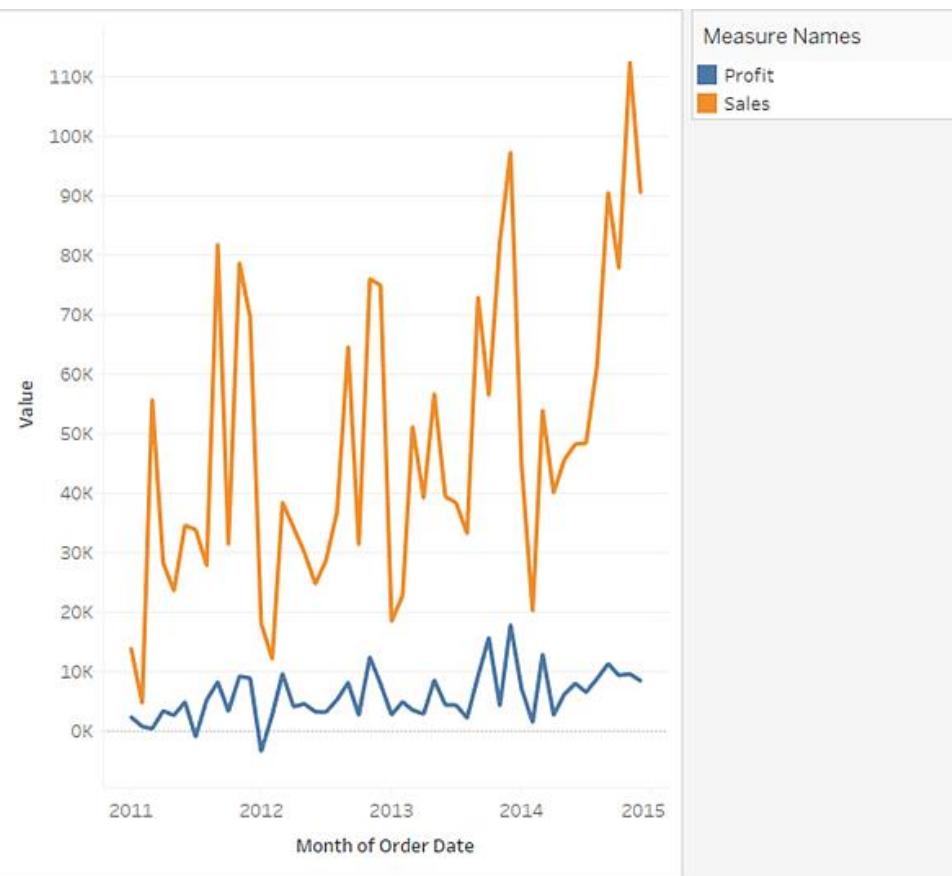
Visualising time series data

- ▶ Line Chart
- ▶ Sparkline Chart
- ▶ Gantt Chart
- ▶ Trendline
- ▶ Reference Line

Powerful Story Telling Tool – Crude Price & History

Visualisation of Time Series Data

Line Chart



Useful for data that does not stay constant i.e., is variable.

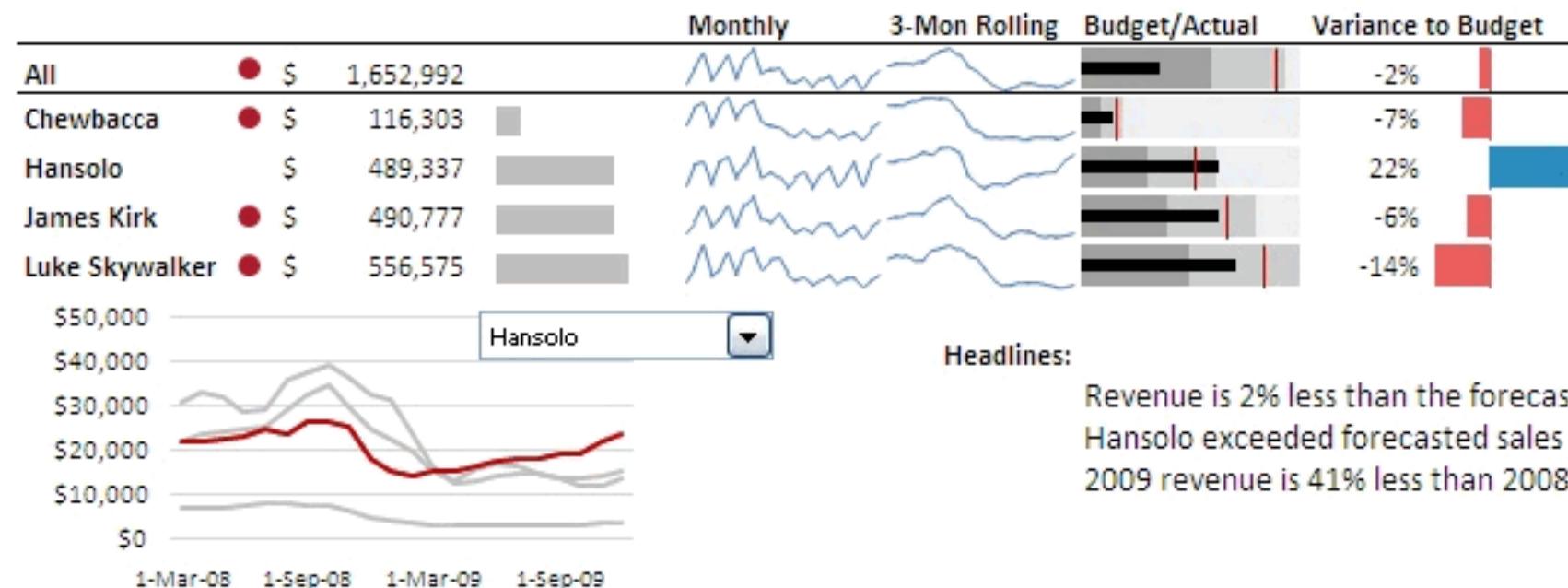
Data that stays constant, then suddenly changes, then stays constant etc is better visualized with a “step” graph

Data that is TOO highly variable (noisy data) sometimes needs to be smoothed and/or a “trend line” can be applied to make sense of it

Visualisation of Time Series Data

Sparkline Chart

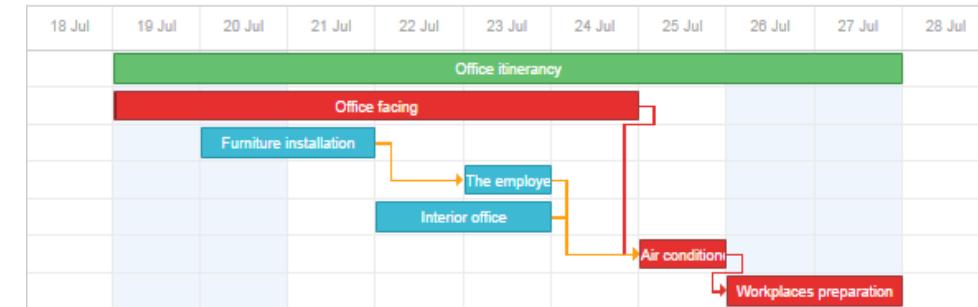
Sales Force Summary, Two Year 2008-2009



Information is displayed in a compact manner. However, this is a difficult plot style to grasp. Each element must be explained, and the audience needs to be guided

Visualisation of Time Series Data

Gantt Chart



Great project managing tool; has duration information and events/resources are visualized as bars. The physical position of the bars denotes start and end time; length is (obviously) duration.

Gantt charts also allow you to trace the “critical path”. Critical path analysis shows the sequence of scheduled tasks that determine the duration of a project. A critical path analysis identifies which tasks you must complete in order to meet your project deadline.

Visualisation of Time Series Data

Adding a trend line



Visualisation of Time Series Data

Adding a reference line/band/distribution/boxes



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TIME 
FOR A
BREAK

15 mins



Part 5 – Advanced Data Visualisation

Visualisation of Spatial Data

Best practices for visualising spatial data

- ▶ The most common way to visualise spatial data is with maps that place values within a geographic coordinate. We can visualise the geographic coordinate of a location by mapping the latitude and longitude coordinates to two-dimensional space, and draw a point on the space.
- ▶ When the density of individual locations across a region is more informative than the overlapping points on a map, we may want to colour code the region based on the density scale, or use lines to show data continuously over geography.

Visualisation of Spatial Data

Best practices for visualising spatial data

- ▶ We can also size the regions by the data and ignore the physical area, so that the regions with high density data will appear bigger than the regions with low density data
- ▶ If we want to explore relationships between entities, we can plot each entity on a map, and draw lines to connect each with the others they are associated with

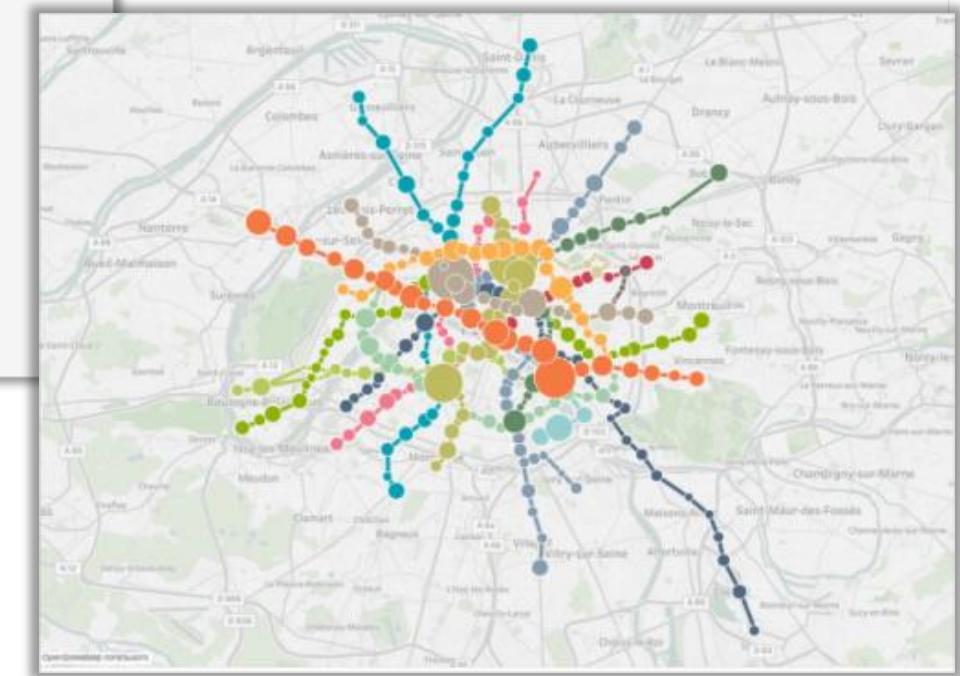
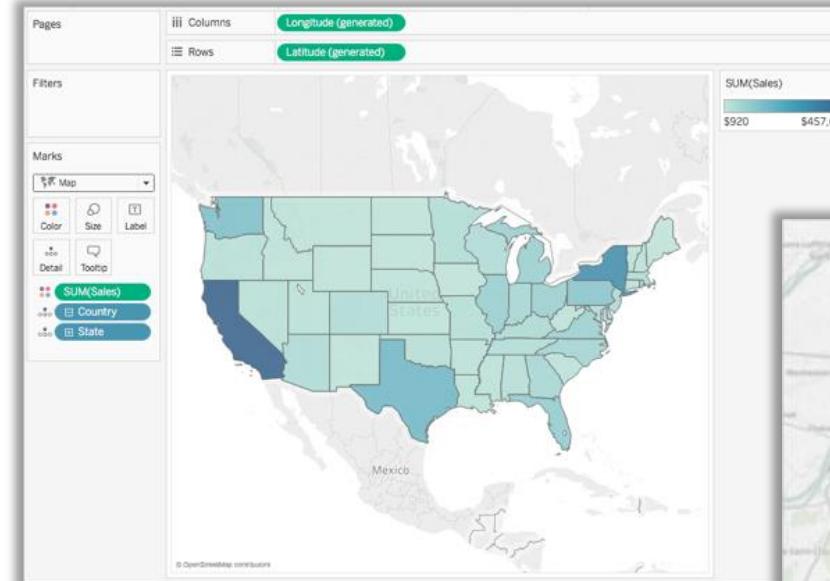
A practical tip - there is a “local” context component to spatial data mapping. For example, would you expect someone who has never been to Singapore to know where Clementi is on a map, unless its explicitly pointed out?

Maps require that you have some background knowledge of the locale; therefore, if you want to use maps, know your audience!

Visualisation of Spatial Data

Best practices for visualising spatial data

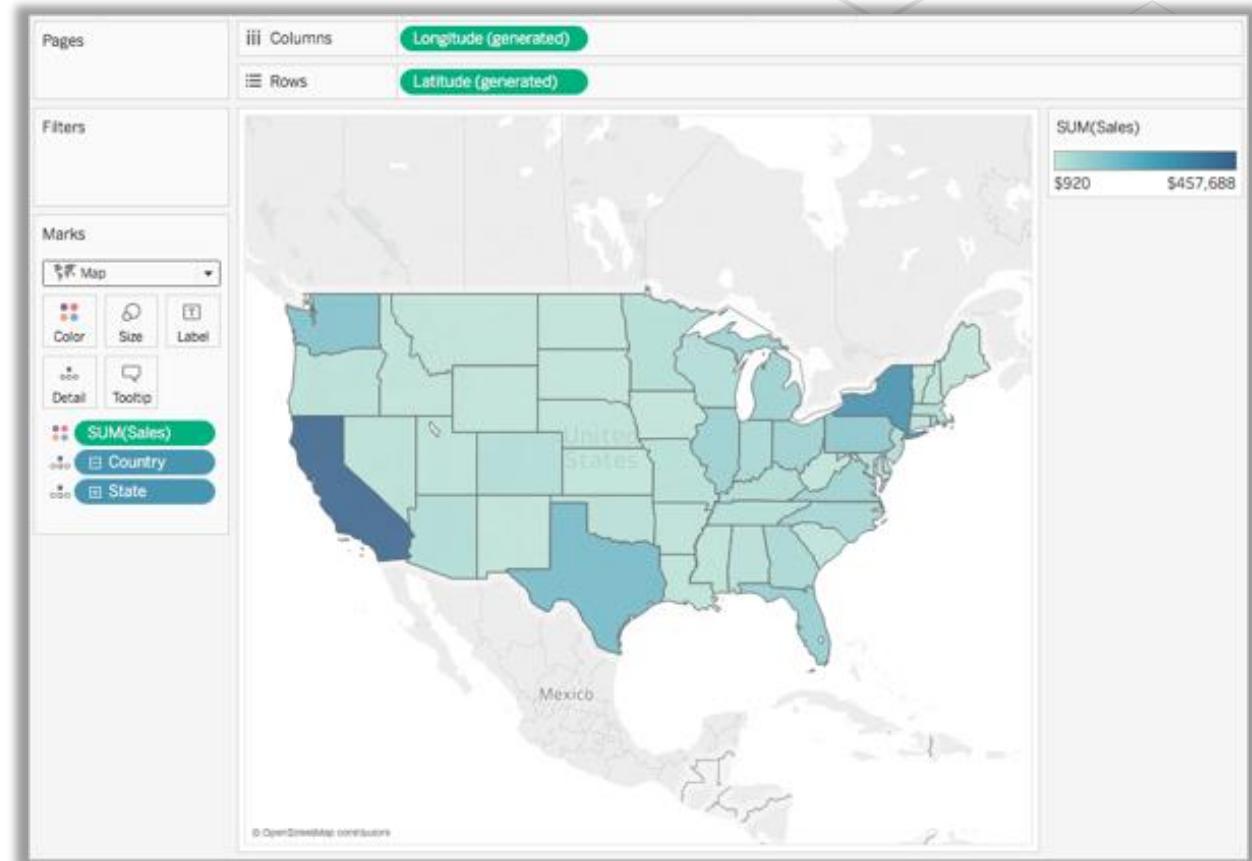
- ▶ Map
- ▶ Mapping Point-to-Point
- Details on Map



Visualisation of Spatial Data

Map

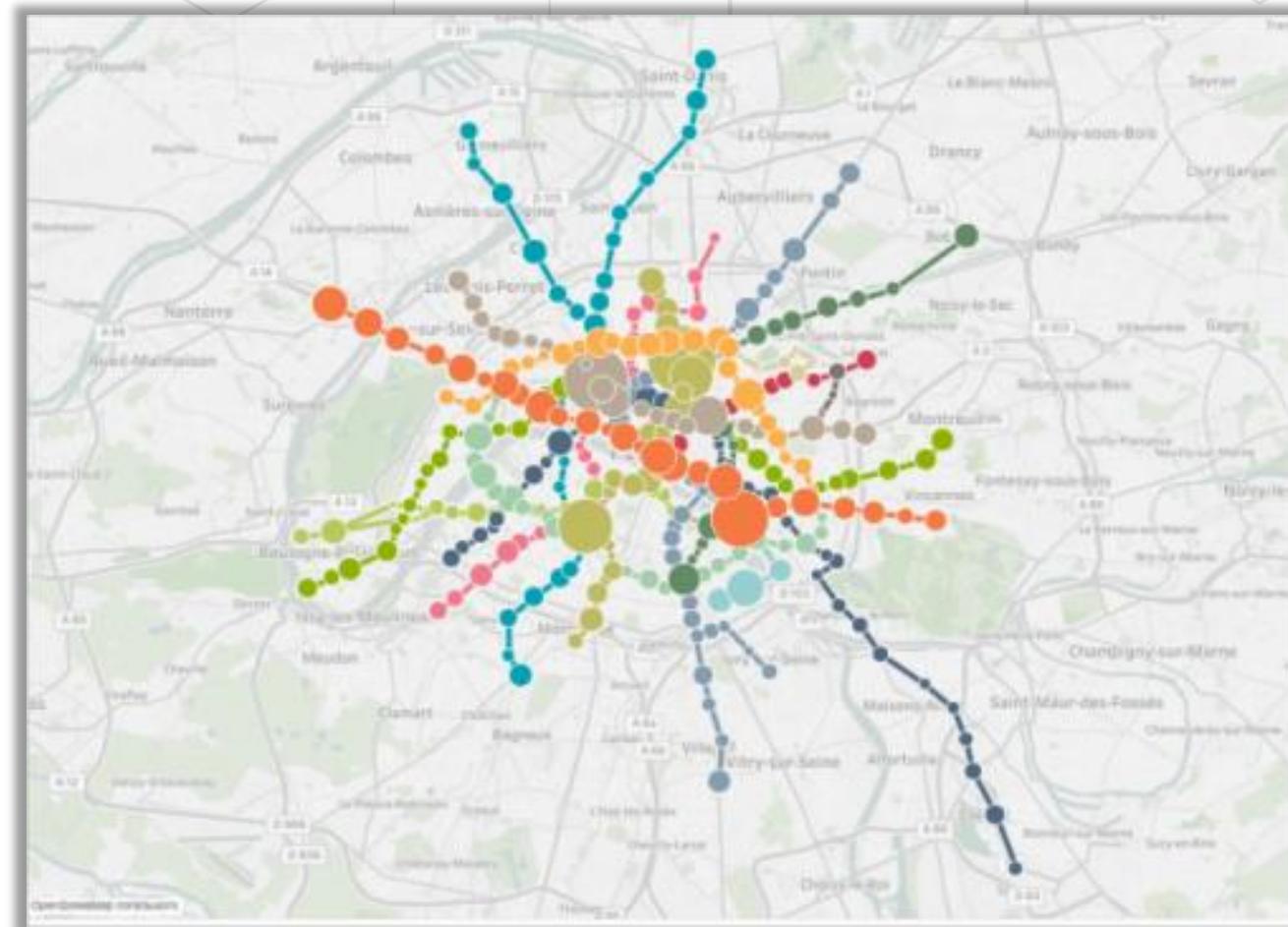
- ▶ Assign “Geographic Role” to fields that are Geographic data.
- ▶ Double click the “Region” field under Dimension of the Data window. The Tableau will automatically add Longitude and Latitude coordinates to the columns and rows shelves. The “Region” field is automatically placed on the Level of Detail shelf.
- ▶ Drag the “Postal Code” field to the Level of Detail shelf to specify more details.



Visualisation of Spatial Data

Point-to-point details on map

- ▶ Used to see linkages between data points e.g., point of origin of goods to where customers are based to answer questions related to “zone of influence”. Could be used to map transportation or logistic routes as well.
- ▶ Note that it can be a bit overwhelming; sometimes in visualization, less is more!



Visualisation of Multi Variable Data

Best practices for visualising multi variable data

- ▶ To visualise multi-variable data, we can fit all data onto a screen and display the relationships amongst variables or trends in each variables
- ▶ We can use scatterplots to visualise the relationships amongst variables
- ▶ However, if the relationships amongst variables are not so straightforward, we should consider using multiple views through more straightforward charts

Correlation → how one variable's value tends to change in a certain way as the other variable's value changes

Causation → Extent of how one variable will impact another

Easier to prove correlation than causation

Correlation DOES NOT IMPLY Causation



Visualisation of Multi Variable Data

Correlation vs Causation – An (absurd) example

	Big Foot Sightings	US Netflix growth	UK Netflix growth
2010	1688390	84.06%	5.58%
2011	1310773	58.47%	80.69%
2012	444190	94.32%	5.14%
2013	1840845	53.54%	69.57%
2014	1813040	92.03%	11.70%
2015	67017	4.61%	68.90%

Correlations	
BFS - US Netflix growth	0.50
BFS - UK Netflix growth	-0.12
UK growth - US growth	-0.78

A very good book on the topic is: 'Spurious correlations' by Tyler Vigen.

Here's a link to his personal website: <http://www.tylervigen.com/spurious-correlations>

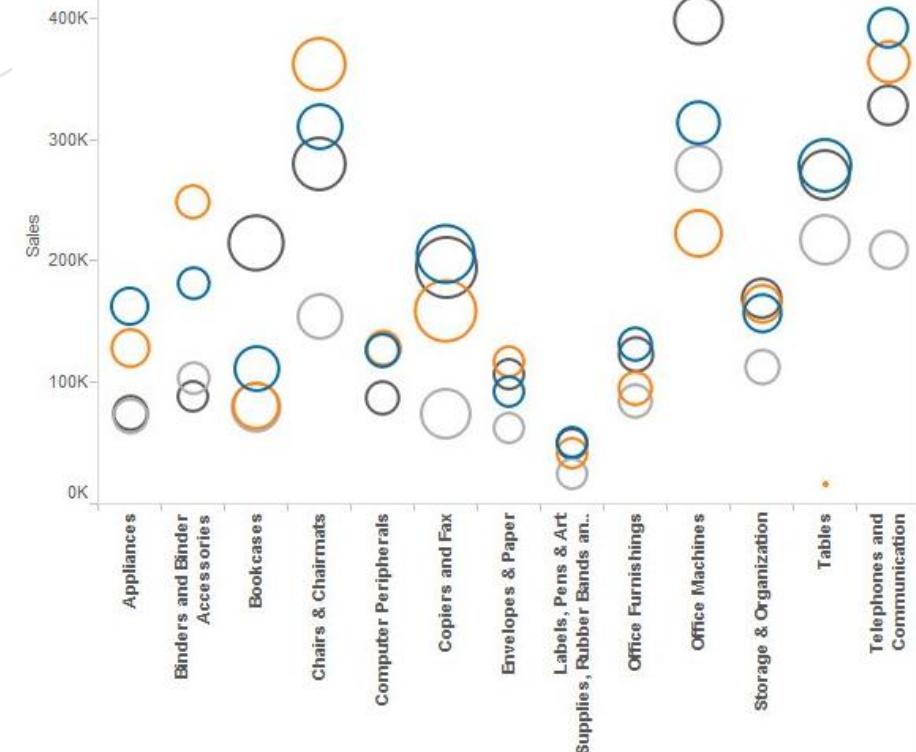
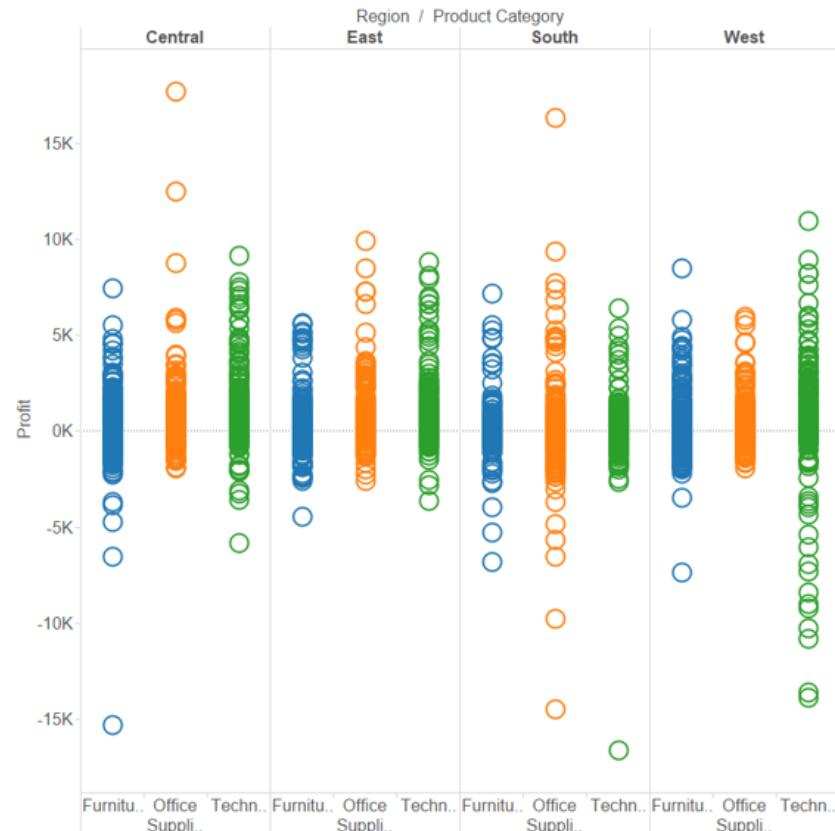
Correlation is in the range of +/- 1, the larger the absolute number, the stronger the relationship between the 2 variables.

In the above example, I would say there is a (fairly) strong correlation between Big Foot Sightings and Netflix growth in the US. But would it be logical if I said big foot sightings cause the growth in US Netflix users?

Visualisation of Spatial Data

Visualising multi variable data

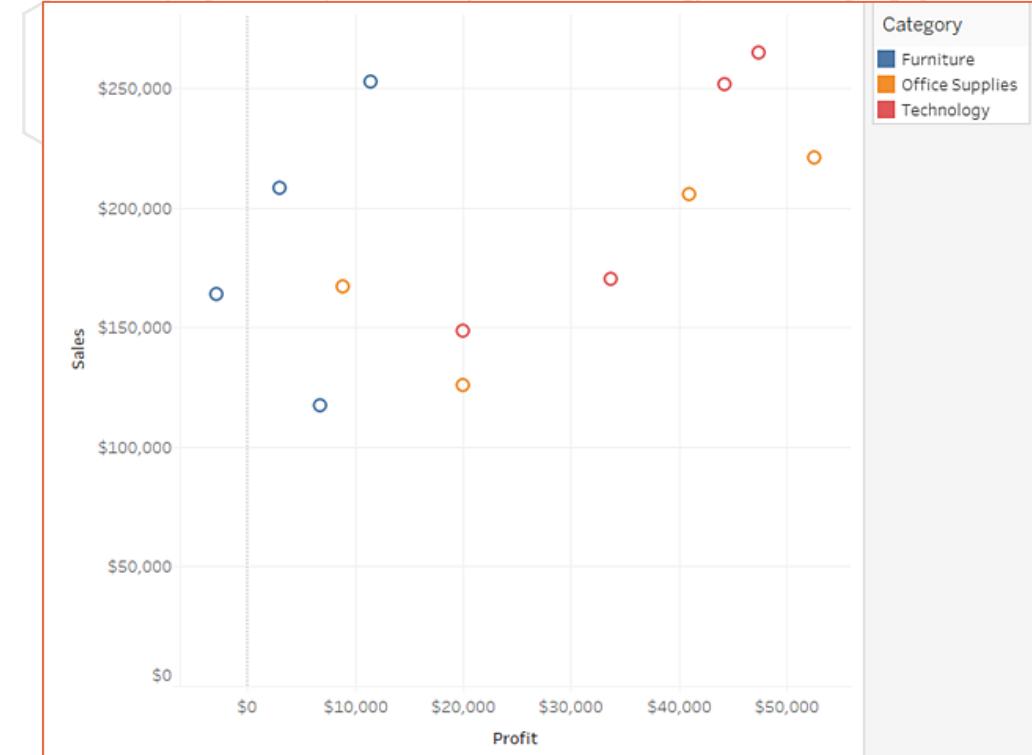
- ▶ Circle View
- ▶ Side-by-Side Circle Plots
- ▶ Scatterplot



Visualisation of Spatial Data

Scatterplot

- ▶ Uses Cartesian coordinates to display values for typically two variables for a set of data.
- ▶ Dots not only report the values of individual data points, but also patterns when data are taken together i.e., how closely points are clustered together. Also useful to identify gaps in data.
- ▶ Identification of correlational relationships are common with scatter plots. Variable on horizontal axis denoted an independent variable, and the variable on the vertical axis the dependent variable. Relationships between variables can be described in many ways: positive or negative, strong or weak, linear or nonlinear.



Overplotting

Can be difficult to tell how densely-packed data points are when many of them are in a small area.

- ▶ Subset/Averaging
- ▶ Optics - Adding transparency or reducing point size

Visualisation of Data Distributions

- ▶ We can visualise the distribution of data at different granularities with bullet charts, bubble charts, and histograms
- ▶ For single-variable distributions, using a histogram will enable us to see where the data is clustered and any outliers, by keeping track of where the outliers sit on the vertical axis
- ▶ For multi-variable distributions, sometimes values come as pairs, so it makes more sense to visualise both values at the same time

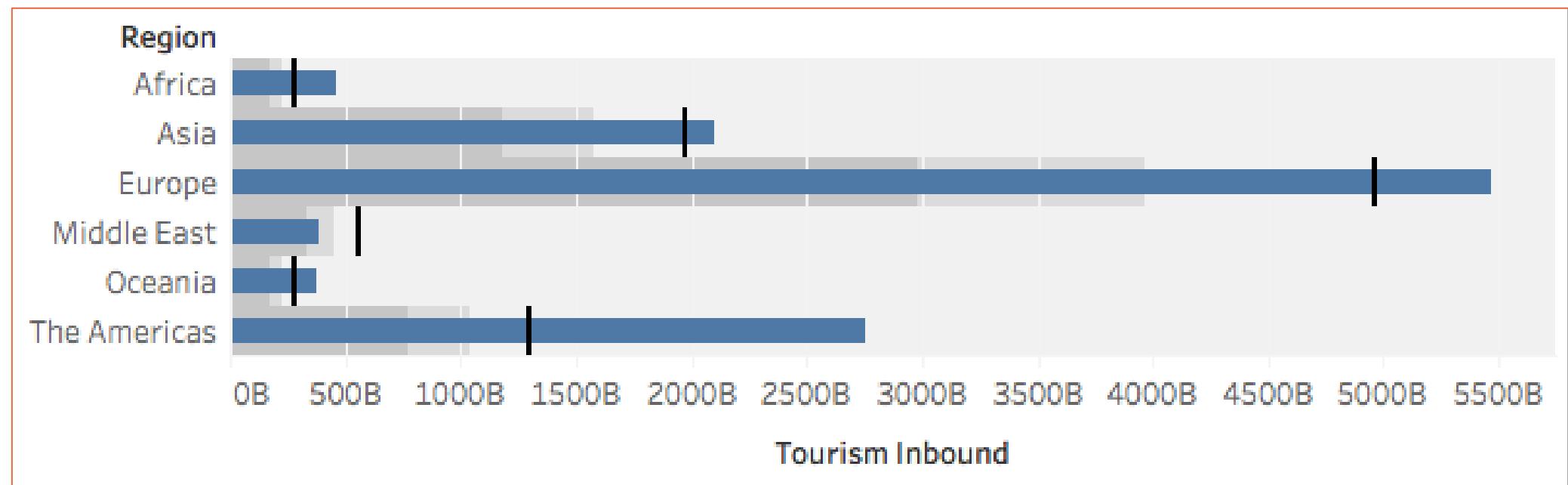
Visualisation of Data Distributions

- ▶ Bullet Chart
- ▶ Bubble Chart
- ▶ Histogram
- ▶ Box Plot
- ▶ Pareto Chart

Visualisation of Data Distributions

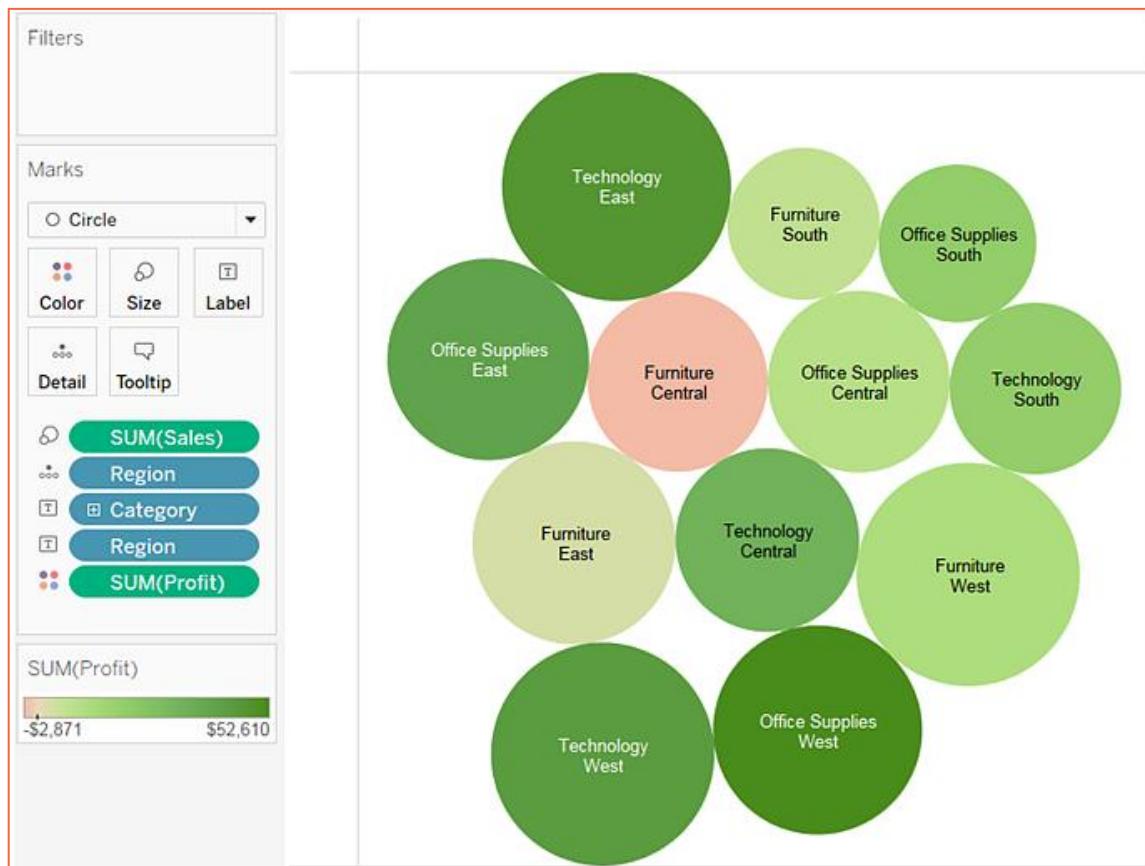
Bullet Chart

- ▶ Reference line and reference distributions



Visualisation of Data Distributions

Bubble Chart



Use packed bubble charts to display data in a cluster of circles.

Dimensions define the individual bubbles, and measures define the size and color of the individual circles.

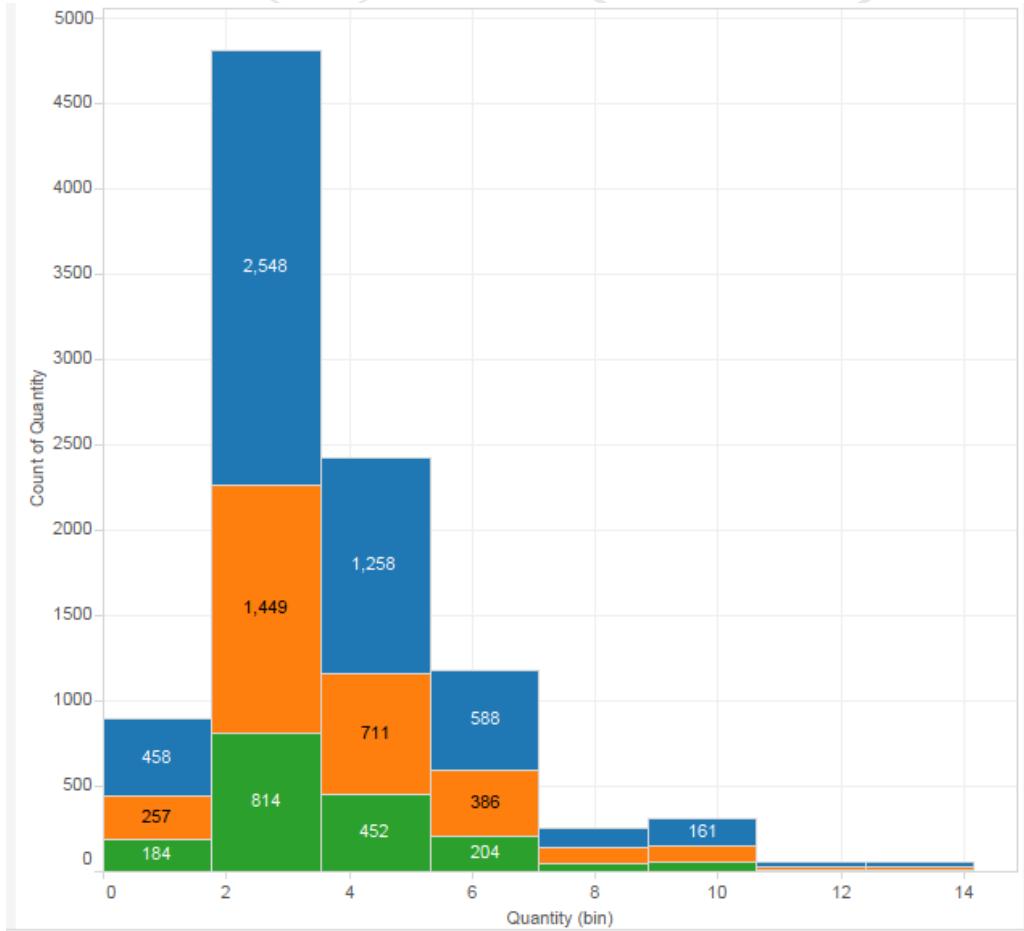
Note that it's not very useful for precise comparisons

Visualisation of Data Distributions

Histogram

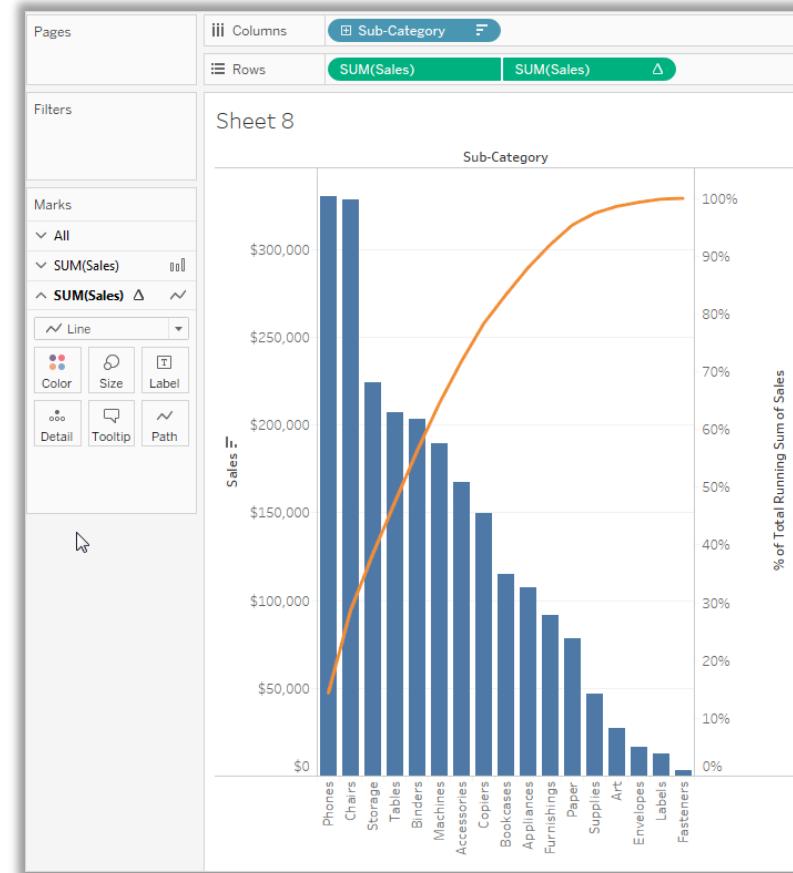
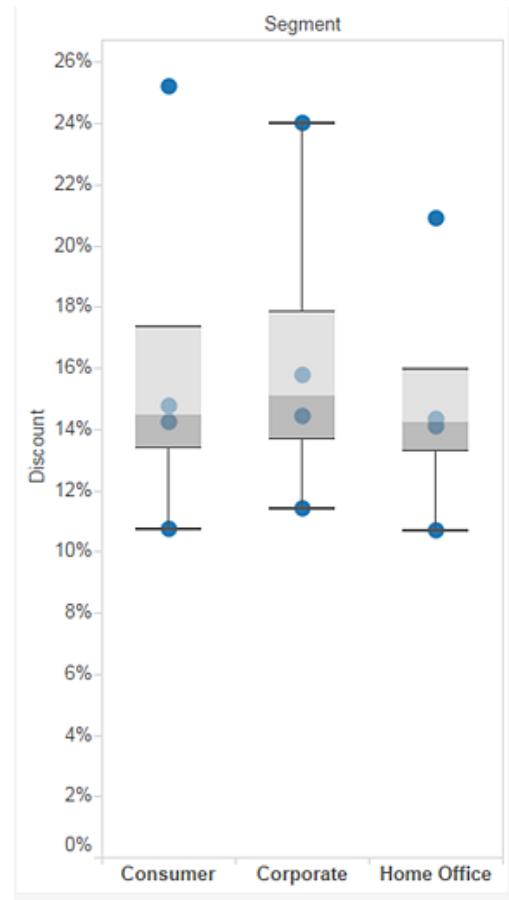
Histograms are used to show distributions of variables while bar charts are used to compare variables.

Histograms plot quantitative data with ranges of the data grouped into bins or intervals while bar charts plot categorical data.



Visualisation of Data Distributions

Box plot & Pareto Chart



Forecasting

- ▶ Forecasting is the act of predicting future values based on historical values
- ▶ Parameters are variables that allow data visualisation users to alter the content of a formula or change a dimension or measure contained in the view
- ▶ Using parameters, data visualisation users can change normally static values into dynamic entities that facilitate ad-hoc analysis without the need to change the design of the data visualisation

Forecasting

- ▶ Trend and season
- ▶ Trend only
- ▶ Season only
- ▶ No trend or season
- ▶ Parameters: Reference Line, Bin Size (Histogram), Ranking (in-value comparison)

Please read these two webpages to understand how to perform forecasting in Tableau...

https://help.tableau.com/current/pro/desktop/en-us/forecast_options.htm

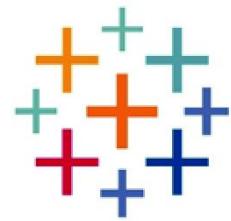
https://help.tableau.com/current/pro/desktop/en-us/forecast_how_it_works.htm

Tableau recommends the best forecasting method for the data but note that “predicting” the future is always imprecise. Even simple trend lines have an implied “Ceteris Paribus” (all things being equal) assumption.

Don’t try to suggest/utilize forecasting data unless you are familiar with the methods, especially pros and cons.



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TIME 
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10 mins



Part 6 – Dashboard & Storyboards

Dashboard Design Principles

- ▶ Keep it simple
- ▶ Don't display everything
- ▶ Keep to a single page
- ▶ Avoid fancy formatting
- ▶ Use layout and placement
- ▶ Format numbers effectively
- ▶ Use titles and labels effectively

Ask the fundamental questions:

- Who (is my audience)?
- What (is my objective – information sharing or KPI or ...)?
- Where (will I need to focus on – visuals, data, data collection)?
- When (was this data collected, when do I intend for it to be actioned, is it still relevant)?
- Why (is a dashboard necessary, can I just use pen and paper)?
- How (will I explain what I created)?



Keep it Super Simple

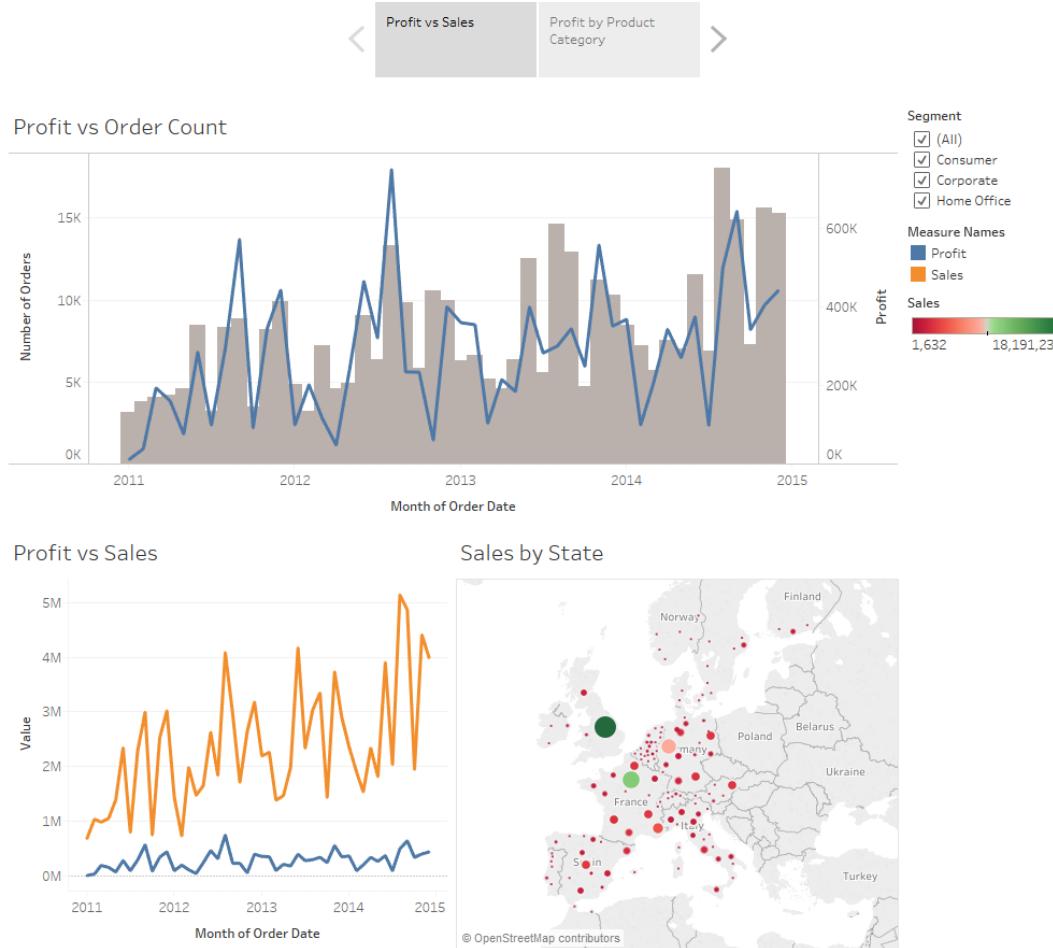
Tableau Class Activity

1. Follow along to create a storyboard using dashboards for Amazing Mart.
 - Amazing Mart's Sales Manager would like to have a dashboard that **tracks the sales and profits** of the products they sell.
 - The collected data is stored in 2 entities, **List of Orders** and **Order Breakdown**.
 - **List of Orders** contains information about the customer, such as customer name, the segment they are in, order date, shipping date, and mode.
 - **Order Breakdown** contains information about the product they purchased, the sales price and the profit that was made from the sales.

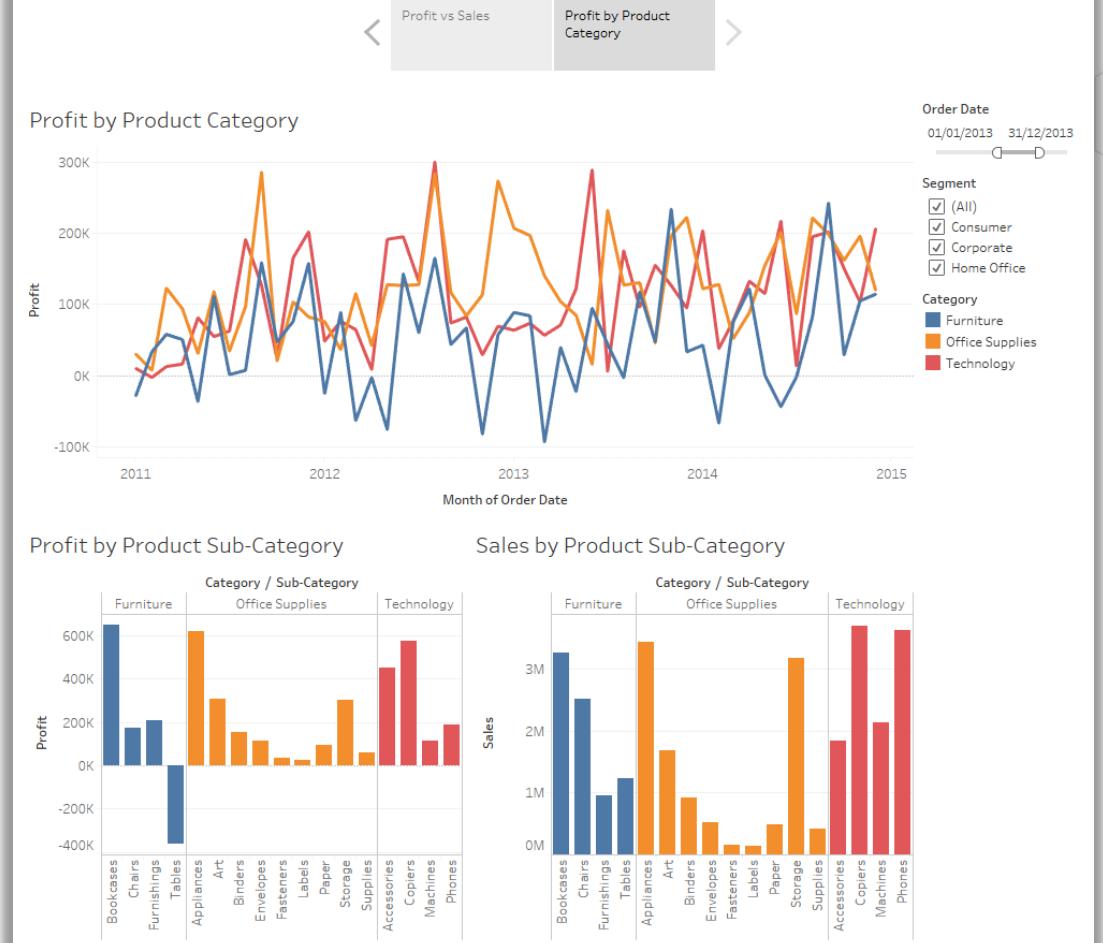


Tableau Class Activity

Amazing Store Profit and Sales



Amazing Store Profit and Sales



Thank you!

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course

