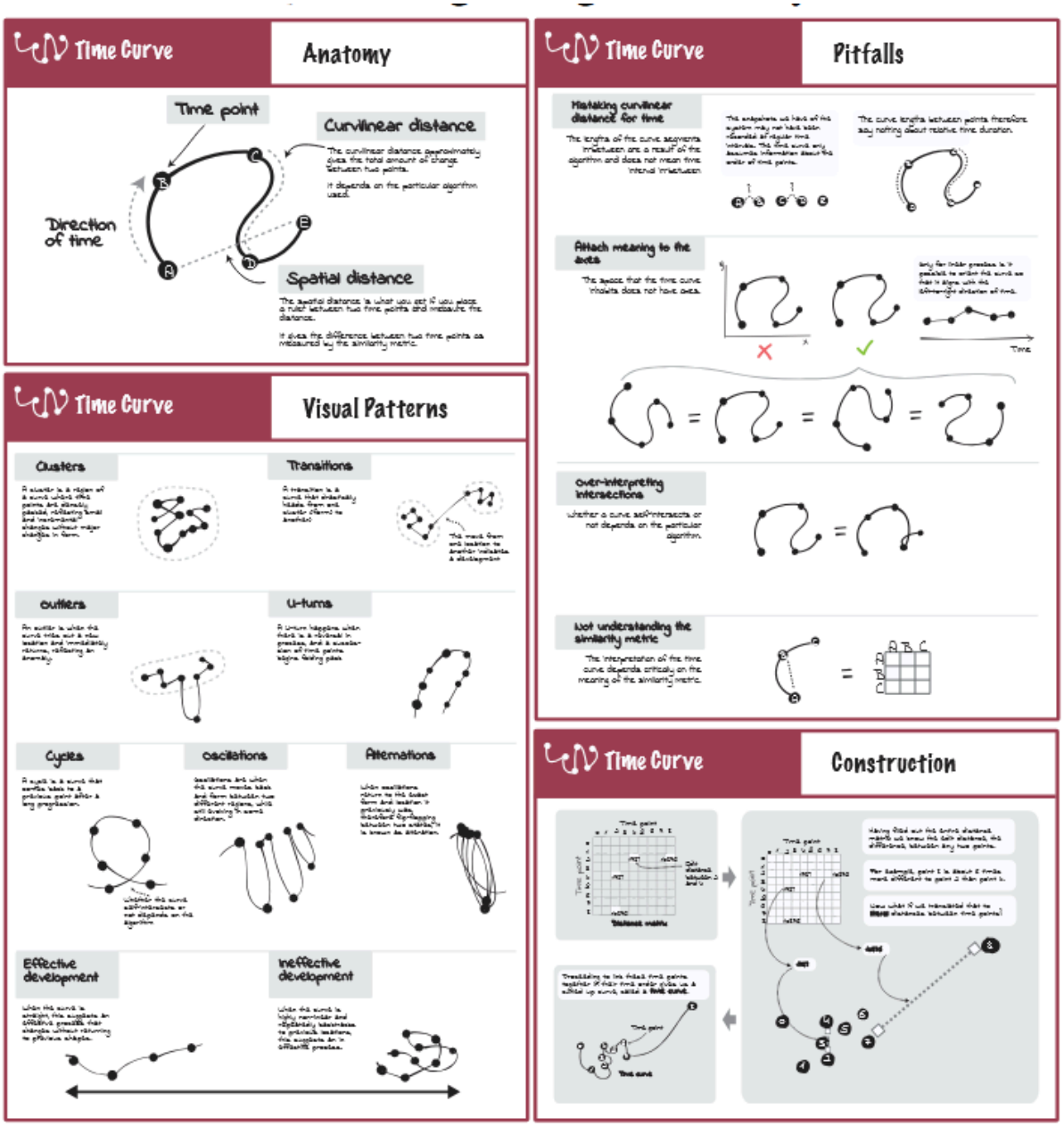
Assignment 3:
Create Your Own Visualization Cheat Sheet

In this assignment, you will design a 1-page visualization cheat sheet for a chart typethat doesn't already have a cheat sheet: https://visualizationcheatsheets.github.io/

Your goal is to teach others how to understand and use your chosen visualization — clearly, visually, and concisely.



Example cheat sheet

Learning Goals

- Develop a deeper understanding of a visualization type beyond the core examples.
- Practice communicating design and interpretation visually.
- Synthesize information from multiple sources into a concise cheat sheet.

Assignment Steps

Choose a Chart Type

Pick a chart **not covered** in the existing cheat sheet collection. There should be one different chart per student. Here is a list you can choose from but you can also pick others:

1. Chord diagram
2. Sankey diagram
3. Sunburst chart
4. Violin plot
5. Hexbin plot
6. Ridgeline plot
7. Streamgraph
8. Slope graph
9. Horizon chart
10. Word cloud
11. Pareto chart
12. Marimekko chart
13. Donut chart
14. Radar chart
15. Nightingale chart
16. Connected scatterplot
17. Dendrogram
18. Gantt chart (Alexandra)
19. Jitter plot
20. Time map
21. Arc diagram
22. Coropleth map

Select the chart you choose here and leave a comment with your name to claim this particular chart. Add a comment with a new chart if you'd like to choose one from outside this list.

Research

Investigate your chosen visualization:

- What kind of data and relationships does it represent?
- How are variables encoded (position, color, size, shape, etc.)?
- When is it useful — and when is it not?
- What are common pitfalls or misinterpretations?
- Which software or libraries can produce it?

Design Your Cheat Sheet

Your final product should be one landscape-oriented page (A4) and follow the guidance on the cheat sheet page. Include a minimum of four panels for:

- Anatomy
- Construction
- Visual Patterns

And pick at least one from the list below

- False friends
- Pitfalls
- Well-known relatives

The cheat sheet should remain concise and does not need to be entirely comprehensive. For example, if your chosen visualization is able to show hundreds of visual patterns, focus on a few common or strong ones.

Submit

On edunao. You have two weeks to complete this assignment.

Deliverables

One-page PDF cheat sheet

This cheat sheet will be shared with the class, so don't put your name on it if you are not comfortable with this

Grading Guide

Here is what I will be looking for when grading this assignment:

Content Accuracy (50%): Complete, accurate, well-researched explanation of chart's function and interpretation.

Design & Clarity (20%): Visually appealing, clear structure, easy to follow.

Originality & Insight (30%): Thoughtful synthesis; creative, insightful interpretation.