**Assignment 1 - Data Exploration and Analysis**

**Due:** September 5, 2017 *before* the beginning of the class

The goal of this week's assignment is to provide you with some experience exploring and analyzing data **without** using an information visualization system.

Below is a data set that contains survey responses from students in Web Data Viz class. The responses are anonymized (i.e., we removed the identity survey participants). You should explore and analyze this data using Excel or simply by hand (drawing pictures is fine), but do not use any visualization tools. Your goal here is to perform an exploratory analysis of the data set, to better understand the data set and its characteristics, and to develop insights about the students in this class.

What you turn in should consist of four things:

* First, list (bullet list of items) three "insights", chunks of knowledge, or deeper questions that you either encountered or gained while exploring the data. An insight could be some understanding of the data and its characteristics that are not relatively obvious or intuitive. It is something that most people might not realize initially. Note that an insight or knowledge chunk simply may be a deeper question that arose in your mind while exploring the data.
* Sketch out a graph, which answers a question that interests you. You can use excel or just sketch it on paper, then add its picture to the homework document.
* Write one paragraph about the process you used to do the exploration and analysis. Did you load the data into Excel, work manually, or do both? What did you do in Excel? Did you draw pictures? Just tell me (briefly) what you did.
* Write one paragraph about challenges or problems that you encountered in doing the analysis this way. Did anything limit or frustrate you? If nothing did, perhaps there was something that was more difficult than you thought it should be. Nothing is perfect, so you should be able to list some potential issues here.

**Grading:** I will evaluate the quality of the insights you listed. I am looking for things that we find interesting or perhaps unexpected. This is subjective. For the second and third parts, we will evaluate if you did what the assignment asked.

**Submission:** Upload a pdf of your answers on bCourses. Name the file A1\_YourName.pdf (e.g., A1\_YasminAlnoamany.pdf).

Link to the data: [WDVSurvey-Aug29.csvreview the documentiew in a new window](https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1465668/files/71551328/download?verifier=cy9OGmzagagJZzj3cN1Zx7nvLyhKmZi6Ovc3Fqtn&wrap=1)

Based on homework from John Stasko, Georgia Tech