CENTRE FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY METHODOLOGIES

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ΜE

Ecology	Ecology &	Postdoc	Res. Fellow	Σ
BSc	Evolution	Microsoft Research	Oxford	U
UEA	PhD, Leeds	Cambridge	2020science	S

SCIENCE



i c k

ART- DESIGN

SCIENCE



ALBUM COVER



Left upper lobe Right lower lobe Right middle lobe Right upper lobe Amage: Am

STATISTICAL GRAPHICS



What does it mean to 'learn' about...

a) visualisation?b) visualisation in R?

Lecture >

Design Perceptual Biases Software

Lab >

- 1. Base graphics
- 2. Ggplot2
- 3. Grid graphics



Fig. 3. Changes in the usage of four leading statistical programs from 1990 to 2013. Gray circles indicate the program JMP, blue circles indicate the program R, red circles indicated the program SAS, and green circles indicate the program SPSS. Data are the proportion of total papers in seven top ecology journals utilizing each technique.

How we organise and present information matters a lot!



http://vrf.wpengine.netdna-cdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/organized-02.jpg





http://vrf.wpengine.netdna-cdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/organized-02.jpg

Jocelyn Bell Burnell

Discovery of pulsars



http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b016812j



Lyne, AG & Smith, FG. (1990) Pulsar Astronomy. Cambridge University Press.





preventable diseases like typhus killed ten times more troops than battle wounds

http://communicatingdata.org/read-white-paper/

For my wife Melinda and me, the problem of global health inequity became visible 15 years ago, when we saw a simple pie chart in the newspaper breaking down the major causes of death among children.

One of the bigger slices of the pie, representing 500,000 dead children annually, was labelled: rotavirus.

Our reaction was somewhere between disbelief and disgust. How could we not have seen even the barest outlines of this tragedy?



That rotavirus slice in the pie chart set us on fire. ... all of a sudden it didn't seem like there was any time to waste

We decided to do everything we could to get the vaccine out to every child who needed it.

http://www.gatesfoundation.org/media-center/speeches/2013/01/bill-gates-dimbleby-lecture

Pretty

Design *visualisation* systems that maximise cognitive & scientific productivity [after Ware 2013, G11.1]

The best example of visualisation...

1		I	н		ľ	IV	
х	у	х	у	х	У	х	У
10.0	8.04	10.0	9.14	10.0	7.46	8.0	6.58
8.0	6.95	8.0	8.14	8.0	6.77	8.0	5.76
13.0	7.58	13.0	8.74	13.0	12.74	8.0	7.71
9.0	8.81	9.0	8.77	9.0	7.11	8.0	8.84
11.0	8.33	11.0	9.26	11.0	7.81	8.0	8.47
14.0	9.96	14.0	8.10	14.0	8.84	8.0	7.04
6.0	7.24	6.0	6.13	6.0	6.08	8.0	5.25
4.0	4.26	4.0	3.10	4.0	5.39	19.0	12.50
12.0	10.84	12.0	9.13	12.0	8.15	8.0	5.56
7.0	4.82	7.0	7.26	7.0	6.42	8.0	7.91
5.0	5.68	5.0	4.74	5.0	5.73	8.0	6.89

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8.0	6.95	8.0	8.14	8.0	6.77	8.0	5.76
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11.0	8.33	11.0	9.26	11.0	7.81	8.0	8.47
14.0	9.96	14.0	8.10	14.0	8.84	8.0	7.04
6.0	7.24	6.0	6.13	6.0	6.08	8.0	5.25
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5.0	5.68	5.0	4.74	5.0	5.73	8.0	6.89

mean(x) = 9
var(x) = 11
mean(y) = 7.5
var(y) = 4.1
cor(x,y) = 0.816
Linear regression line

$$\rightarrow$$
 Y = 0.5x+3

1		I	н		ľ	IV	
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10.0	8.04	10.0	9.14	10.0	7.46	8.0	6.58
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'Small Multiples'...

Data are partitioned into a series of plots rather than a single plot. Reduces 'confusion'... Increases 'salience'.

"visually enforcing comparisons..."



Tufte, Edward (1990). *Envisioning Information*. Graphics Press.





This design doesn't necessarily work for all data...









a) Same
design but the
data values
are increased
by 100

b) Scales fitted to the range of each data set **c)** Single plot with symbols in black and white d) Single plot with symbols designed based on pre-attentive processing

e) Surface plot using Excel default formatting options







IV

Visualisations can reveal.
 Design is data-dependent
 There are >1 possibilities

a.ii

b.i b.ii



[1] https://fathom.info/traces/

[2] http://www.stefanieposavec.co.uk/-everything-in-between/#/entangled-word-bank/

[3-6] see Viegas & Wattenberg (2015)

[3] Tufte1990

[4] Tufte 1990

[5] http://www.informationisbeautifulawards.com/showcase/113-arab-spring

[6] http://www.thefunctionalart.com/2015/02/redesigning-circular-timeline.html

[7] http://www.scmp.com/infographics/article/1284683/iraqs-bloody-toll

[8] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ybwh4lejYO4

a.i

An example of how science leads design...



Random data to grouped data set = 1.2 to 2 time quicker

Random 'large' data set to 'smaller' grouped data set = 8 times quicker

Gramazio C, Schloss, K, Laidlaw D. The relation between visualization size, grouping, and user performance. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. InfoVis). 2014; 20(12): 1953-1962.



'Small multiples' negates the need for complicated colour and symbol schemes, allowing the patterns to be set in context.

b



Gramazio C, Schloss, K, Laidlaw D. The relation between visualization size, grouping, and user performance. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. InfoVis). 2014; 20(12): 1953-1962.



'Small multiples' negates the need for complicated colour and symbol schemes, allowing the patterns to be set in context.



С

b

Important patterns are still observable in small graphics.



Gramazio C, Schloss, K, Laidlaw D. The relation between visualization size, grouping, and user performance. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. InfoVis). 2014; 20(12): 1953-1962.

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Important patterns are still observable in small graphics.



b

С



а

Figure 3 | Best substitute crops at mean time of crossing for maize for RCP8.5. A substitute is defined in a given pixel as a crop that by 2100 does not require transformation. **a**, Map of best substitutes. Green areas indicate that two crops or more can be potential substitutes on a continuous scale. Dark grey areas indicate that no substitution is possible, whereas light grey areas indicate no substitution is needed. **b**, Percentage area (from total area



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No adaptat

Bean Finger millet

5 6 7

Pearl millet



http://0-www.nature.com.pugwash.lib.warwick.ac.uk/nclimate/journal/vaop/ncurrent/pdf/nclimate2947.pdf

Figure 3 | Best substitute crops at mean time of crossing for maize for RCP8.5. A substitute is defined in a given pixel as a crop that by 2100 does not require transformation. **a**, Map of best substitutes. Green areas indicate that two crops or more can be potential substitutes on a continuous scale. Dark grey areas indicate that no substitution is possible, whereas light grey areas indicate no substitution is needed. **b**, Percentage area (from total area



No adapta

Bean Finger millet





http://0-www.nature.com.pugwash.lib.warwick.ac.uk/nclimate/journal/vaop/ncurrent/pdf/nclimate2947.pdf

All visualisations are inevitably biasec.





Nick Golding @_NickGolding_ · Dec 2 This figure in a recent paper made my eyes hurt - any suggestions

to better visualise these proportions? pic.twitter.com/uMix0Sv9E1





"It looks like a fruit salad with lots of watermelon..."

Esther, aged 10.



Nick Golding @_NickGolding_ · Dec 2 This figure in a recent paper made my eyes hurt - any suggestions to better visualise these proportions? pic.twitter.com/uMix0Sv9E1 A host of effects can reduce a user's ability to compare values in bar charts.



а

A host of effects can reduce a user's ability to compare values in bar charts.



b When combined in stacked graphs different comparisons will have different biases.









Talbot J, Setlur V, Anand A. Four Experiments on the Perception of Bar Charts. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. InfoVis). 2014; 20(12): 2152 - 2160.

а



Distractors

produces 'Small multiples', which simplifies difficult comparisons.

Talbot J, Setlur V, Anand A. Four Experiments on the Perception of Bar Charts. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. InfoVis). 2014; 20(12): 2152 - 2160.

а

Reduced Size



Talbot J, Setlur V, Anand A. Four Experiments on the Perception of Bar Charts. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (Proc. InfoVis). 2014; 20(12): 2152 - 2160.

а

http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(12)61689-4/fulltext

Disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) for 291 diseases and injuries in 21 regions, 1990–2010: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2010

Christopher JL Murray 12, Theo Vos, Rafael Lozano, Mohsen Naghavi, Abraham D Flaxman, Catherine Michaud, Majid Ezzati, Kenji Shibuya, Joshua A Salomon, Safa A bdalla*, Victor Aboyans*, Jerry Abraham*, Ilana Adkerman*, Rakesh Aggarwal*, Stephanie Y Ahn*, Mohammed K Ali*, Mohammad A AlMazroa*, Miniam Alvarado*, H Ross Anderson*, Laurie M Anderson*, Kathryn G Andrews*, Charles Atkinson*, Larry M Baddour*, Adil N Bahalim*, Suzanne Barker-Collo*, Lope H Barrero*, David H Bartels*, Maria-Gloria Basáñez*, Arnanda Baxter*, MichelleL. Bell*, Ernelia J. Benjamin*, Derrick Bennett*, Eduardo Bernabé*, Kavi Bhala*, Bishal Bhandari*, Boris Bikbov*, Aref Bin Abdulhak*, Gretchen Birbeck*, James A Black*, Hannah Blencowe*, Jed D Blore*, Fiona Blyth*, Jan Bolliger*, Audrey Bonaventure*, Soufiane Boufous*, Rupert Bourne*, Michel Boussinesg*, Tasanee Braithwaite*, Carol Brayne*, Lisa Bridgett*, Simon Brooke*, Peter Brooks*, Traolach S Brugha*, Claire Bryan-Hancock*, Chiara Bucel o*, Rachelle Buchbinder*, Geoffrey Buckle*, Christine M Budke*, Michael Burch*, Pet er Burney*, Roy Burstein*, Bianca Calabria*, Benjamin Campbell*, Charles E Canter*, Hélène Carabin*, Jonathan Carapetis*, Loreto Carmona*, Claudia Cella*, Fiona Charlson*, Honglei Chen*, Andrew Tai-Ann Cheng*, David Chou *, Surneet S Chugh*, Luc E Coffeng*, Steven D Colan*, Samant ha Colguhoun*, K Ellicott Colson*, John Condon*, Myles D Connor*, LeslieT Cooper*, Matthew Corriere*, Monica Cortinovis*, Karen Courvil e de Vaccaro*, William Couser*, Benjamin C Cowie*, Michael H Criqui*, Marita Cross*, Kaustubh C Dabhadkar*, Manu Dahiya*, Nabila Dahodwala*, James Damsere-Derry*, Goodarz Danaei*, Adrian Davis*, Diego DeLeo*, Louisa Degenhardt*, Robert Del avalle*, Allyne Delossant os*, Julie Denenberg*, Sarah Derrett*, Don C Des Jarlais*, Samath D Dharmarat ne*, Mukesh Dherani*, Cesar Diaz-Torne*, Helen Dalk*, E Ray Dorsey*, Tim Driscoll*, Herbert Duber*, Beth Ebel*, Karen Edmond*, Alexis Elbaz*, Suad Eltahir Ali*, Holly Erskine*, Patricia J Erwin*, Patricia Espindola*, Stalin E Ewoigbokhan*, Farshad Farzadfar*, ValeryFeigin*, David TFelson*, AlizeFerran*, Geusa PFerri*, Eric M Fèvre*, Mariel M Finucane*, Seth Flaxman*, LouiseFlood*, KyleForeman*, Mohammad H Forouzanfar*, Francis Gerry R Fowkes*, MarleneFransen*, Michael K Freeman*, Belinda J Gabbe*, Sherine E Gabriel*, Emmanuela Gakidou*, Hammad A Ganatra*, Bianca Garcia*, Flavio Gaspari*, Richard F Gillum*, Gerhard Gmel*, Diego Gonzal ez-Medina*, Richard Gosselin*, Rebecca Grainger*, Bridget Grant*, Justina Groeger*, Francis Guillemin*, David Gunnel*, Ramyani Gupta", Juanita Haaqsma", Holly Haqan", Yara A Halasa", Wayne Hall", Diana Haring", Josep Maria Haro", James E Harrison", Rasmus Havroeller", Roderick J Hay*, Hideki Hiqashi*, Catherine Hill*, Bruno Hoen*, Howard Haffman*, Peter J Hotez*, Damian Hoy*, John J Huang*, Sydney El beanusi*, Kathryn H Jacobsen*, Spencer L James*, Deborah Jarvis*, Rashmi Jasrasaria*, Sudha Jayaraman*, Nicole Johns*, Jost B Jonas*, Ganesan Karthikeyan*, Nicholas Kassebaum*, Norito Kawakami*, Andre Keren*, Jon-Paul Khoo*, Charles H King*, Lisa Marie Knowlt on*, Olive Kobusingye*, Adofo Karanteng*, Rita Krishnamurthi*, Francine Laden*, Ratilal Lalloo*, Laura L. Laslett*, Tim Lathlean*, Janet Leasher*, Yong Yi Lee*, James Leigh*, Daphna Levinson*, Stephen S Lim*, Elizabeth Limb*, John Kent Lin*, Michael Lipnick*, Steven E Lipshultz*, Wei Liu*, Maria Loane*, Summer Lockett Ohno*, Ronan Lyons*, Jacqueline Mabweijano*, Michael F Mad ntyre*, Reza Malekzadeh*, Leslie Mallinger*, Sivabal an Manivannan*, Wagner Marcenes*, Lyn March*, David / Margalis*, Guy B Marks*, Robin Marks*, Akira Mat sumon*, Richard Matzopoulos*, Bongani M Mayosi*, John H MoAnulty*, Mary M McDermott*, Neil McGill*, John McGrath*, MariaElena Medina-Mara*, Michele Meltzer*, ZiadA Mernish*, George A Mensah*, Tony R Merriman*, Ana-Claire Meyer*, Valeria Midjioli*, Matthew Miller*, Ted R Miller*, Philip B Mitchell*, Charles Mode*, Ana Cl qa Mocumbi*, Terrie E Moffitt*, Ali A Mokdad*, Lorenzo Monasta*, Mar cella Montico*, Maziar Moradi-Lakeh*, Andrew Moran*, Lidia Marawska*, Rintaro Mori*, Michele E Murdoch*, Michael K Mwaniki*, Kovin Naidoo*, M Nathan Nair*, Luigi Nd di*, K M Venkat Narayan*, Paul KN elson*, Robert G Nelson*, Michael CNevit1*, Charles RNewton*, Sandra Nolte*, Paul Norman*, Rosana Norman*, Martin O'Donnell*, Simon O'Hanlon*, Casey Olives*, Saad B Orner*, Katrina Ortblad*, Richard Osbarne*, Doruk Ozgediz*, Andrew Page*, Bishnu Pahari*, Jeyaraj Durai Pandian*, Andrea Panozo Rivero*, Scott B Patten*, Neil Pearce*, Rogelio Perez Padilla*, Fernando Perez-Ruiz*, Norberto Perico*, Konrad Pesudovs*, David Phillips*, Michael R Phillips*, Kelsey Pierce*, Sébastien Pion*, Guilherme V Polanczyk*, Suzanne Polinder*, CArden Pope III*, Svetlana Popova*, Esteban Porrini*, Farshad Pourmalek*, Martin Prince*, Rachel L. Pullan*, Kapa D. Ramaiah*, Dharani Ranganathan*, Hornie Razavi*, Mathilda Regan*, Jürgen T Rehm*, David B Rein*, Guiseppe Remuzzi*, Kathryn Richardson*, Frederick P Rivara*, Thomas Roberts*, Carolyn Robinson*, Felipe Rodriguez De Leòn*, Luca Ronfani*, Robin Room*, Lisa C Rosenfeld*, Lesley Rushton*, Ralph L Sacco*, Suk anta Saha*, Uchechukwu Sampson*, Lidia Sanchez-Riera*, Ella Sanman*, David C Schwebel*, James Graham Scott*, Maria Sequi-Gomez*, Saeid Shahraz*, Donald S Shepard*, Hwashin Shin*, Rupak Shivakoti*, David Singh*, Gitanjali M Singh*, Jasvinder A Singh*, Jessica Singleton*, David A Sleet*, Karen Sliwa*, Emma Smith*, Jennifer L. Smith*, Nicolas J C Stapelber q*, Andrew Steer*, Timothy Steine*, Wilma A Stak*, Lars Jacob Stovner*, Christopher Sudfeld*, Sana Syed*, Giorgio Tamburlini*, Mohammad Tavakkoli*, Hugh R Taylor*, Jennifer A Taylor*, William J Taylor*, Bernadette Thomas*, W Murray Thomson*, George D Thurston*, Imad M Tleyjeh*, Marcello Tonelli*, Jeffrey A Towbin*, Thomas Truelsen*, Mitiadis K Tsilimbaris*, Gatilde Ubeda*, Eduardo A Undurraga*, Marieke J van der Werf*, Jim van Os*, Monica SVavilala*, NVenketasubramanian*, Mengru Wanq*, Wenzhi Wanq*, Kerianne Watt*, David J Weatherall*, Martin A Weinstock*, Robert Weintraub*, Marc G Weisskopf*, Myrna M Weissman*, Richard A White*, Harvey Whiteford*, Natasha Wiebe*, Steven T Wiersma*, James D Wikinson*, Hywel C Williams*, Sean R M Williams*, EmmaWitt*, Frederick Wolfe*, Anthony DWoolf*, Sarah Wulf*, Pon-Hsiu Yeh*, Anit aK M Zaidi*, Zhi-Jie Zheng*, David Zonies*, Alan D Lopez+

Summary

Background Measuring disease and injury burden in populations requires a composite metric that captures both premature mortality and the prevalence and severity of ill-health. The 1990 Global Burden of Disease study proposed disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) to measure disease burden. No comprehensive update of disease burden worldwide incorporating a systematic reassessment of disease and injury-specific epidemiology has been done since the 1990 study. We aimed to calculate disease burden worldwide and for 21 regions for 1990, 2005, and 2010 with methods to enable meaningful comparisons over time.

Methods We calculated DALYs as the sum of years of life lost (YLLs) and years lived with disability (YLDs). DALYs were calculated for 291 causes, 20 age groups, both sexes, and for 187 countries, and aggregated to regional and global estimates of disease burden for three points in time with strictly comparable definitions and methods. YLLs were calculated from age-sex-country-time-specific estimates of mortality by cause, with death by standardised lost

This online publication has been corrected. The corrected version first appeared at thelancet.com on February 22, 2013

Lancet 2012; 380: 2197-223

See Comment pages 2053, 2054, 2055, 2058, 2060, 2062, and 2063 See Special Report page 2067

See Articles pages 20/1, 2095, 2129, 2144, 2163, and 2224 "Authors listed alphabetically





Figure 2: Percentage of global disability-adjusted life years by age, sex, and cause in 2010 Distribution of DAIYs for make individuals (A) and fernate individuals (B) DAIY-disability-adjusted life years. An interactive version of this figure is available online http://haithmenicandevlaution.oroidbd/vsulatizationremoinal.



Figure 7: Percentage of disability-adjusted life years by 21 main cause groupings and region, 1990 and 2010
Proportion in 1990 (A) and 2010 (B). An interactive version of this figure is available online at http://bailthmetricsandevaluation.com/abd/vigualizations/reg

ANATOMY OF A VISUALISATION



http://openbracketdesign.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Jurassic-5-Data-Vis-600.jpg



http://openbracketdesign.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Jurassic-5-Data-Vis-600.jpg



http://openbracketdesign.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Jurassic-5-Data-Vis-600.jpg



http://openbracketdesign.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Jurassic-5-Data-Vis-600.jpg

Lots of computational, editorial and design choices.... SCREEN









Statistics and Computing

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Lela	land Wilkinson		E	
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"Wil orde	ilkinson's careful scholarship shows around every corner. This is a tour de force of the h er^{*} —Pipcham	ighest <i>etrika</i>	hice	of Graphics
"All j quan volu task j like t	I geography and map libraries should add this book to their collections; the serious exh- minative data graphics will place this book on the same shell with three by Edward Tult user by Cleveland, Bertin, Monmonier, MacCathen, among others, and continue the one of proselythring for the best in statistical data presentation by example and through shell that of Leland Wilkinson."	lar of e, and nding arship ectives	Second	Second Edition
"In s appli	summary, this is certainly a remarkable book and a new ambitious step for the developmen dication of statistical graphics." —Computational Statistics and Data Ar	nt and nalysis	Editi	
Abou	out the author:		on	
Lelar Univ at Cl joine and comp Desk	and Wilkmon is Senior VP. SPSS Inc. and Adjunct Professor of Statistics at Northwise weesity. He is also affiliated with the Computer Science department at The University of T Inleago. He wrote the SYSTAY statistical package and founded SYSTAT. Inc. in 1944. Will ted SPSS in a 1994 acquisition and now works on research and development of visual and statistics. He is a Fellow of the ASA. In addition to journal articles and the original SY optice program and manuals, Wilkmison is the author (with Grant Blank and Chris Grub ktop Data Audysis with SYSTAT.	extern linois inson Jytics STAT err) of		
	1594 (0-387-0254-4 9 9 - 780587*24 544 7*>		<u>2</u>	

Grammar makes language expressive. A language consisting of words and no grammar (statement = word) expresses only as many ideas as there are words. By specifying how words are combined in statements, a grammar expands a language's scope... Grammar makes language expressive. A language consisting of words and no grammar (statement = word) expresses only as many ideas as there are words. By specifying how words are combined in statements, a grammar expands a language's scope...



Figure 1.1 Plot of death rates against birth rates for selected countries

Figure 1.2 Design tree for chart in Figure 1.1

Use R!

Hadley Wickham

ggplot2 Elegant Graphics for Data Analysis Second Edition



http://docs.ggplot2.org/current/

ggplot

theme_	Design, looks, formatting		
coord_	The shape of the plot, flat, round, map		
stat_	Data transformations and processing		
facet_	Multiple plots and subsetting of data		
geom_	Shapes, symbols, geometric objects		
aes	<pre>'aesthetics' how the data is mapped to the visuals</pre>		
data_	… data …		

ggplot2

Base Graphics



http://flowingdata.com/2016/03/22/comparing-ggplot2-and-r-base-graphics/

```
ggplot(data=dat, aes(x=time, y=total_bill, fill=time)) +
  geom_bar(colour="black", fill="#DD8888", width=.8,
stat="identity") +
  guides(fill=FALSE) +
  xlab("Time of day") + ylab("Total bill") +
  ggtitle("Average bill for 2 people")
```

```
dat <- data.frame(
  time = factor(c("Lunch","Dinner"), levels=c("Lunch","Dinner")),
  total_bill = c(14.89, 17.23)
)</pre>
```

```
ggplot(data=dat, aes(x=time, y=total_bill, fill=time)) +
geom_bar(colour="black", fill="#DD8888", width=.8, stat="identity") +
guides(fill=FALSE) +
xlab("Time of day") + ylab("Total bill") +
ggtitle("Average bill for 2 people") +
facet wrap(~time, ncol=2)
```

```
ggplot(data=dat, aes(x=time, y=total bill, fill=time)) +
  geom bar(colour="black", fill="#DD88888", width=.8,
stat="identity") +
  guides(fill=FALSE) +
  xlab("Time of day") + ylab("Total bill") +
  ggtitle("Average bill for 2 people")
par(las=1)
barplot(dat$total bill,
       names.arg=dat$time,
       col="#AFC0CB",
       border=FALSE,
       main="Average Bill for Two-Person Meal")
```

1.5.4 Not a Book of Virtues

This system is capable of producing some hideous graphics. There is nothing in its design to prevent its misuse. We will occasionally point out some of these instances (*e.g.*, Figure 9.25). That the system *can* produce such graphics is simply a consequence of its basis on the mathematical rules that determine the meaning of graphs, rather than on the *ad hoc* rules we sometimes use to produce graphics. These rules are not based on personal preferences but rather on the mathematics and perceptual dimensions underlying the graphics we draw in practice. These rules are just as capable of producing graphics for *USA Today* as for *Scientific American*.

Today's Lab

In this lab you will be introduced to the three main ways of creating graphic in R – using 'base' graphics, the 'ggplot' package and 'grid' graphics. There are six scripts which have the instructions, directions and questions as comments. You will not complete them all! The goals are:

- to orientate you with the structure of the different methods (a broad, but shallow overview),
- encourage you to defy the defaults and show you how to make visuals your own,
- introduce some design and computational thinking,
- and give you a spring board to become an independent learner.

Remember (as I should have said in the lecture) not all the visuals we will produce make sense! Some examples are just show you alternatives, or signposts things you may consider later on. Except for the jpeg, all the data is contained in the scripts. Do not linger too long on looking at the data. That is what the visualisations are for. Please use the scripts in this order...

- 1. anscombe.R
- 2. anscombelayouts.R
- 3. truncated.R
- 4. piecharts.R
- 5. anscombeGGplot.R
- 6. ukko.R (also using ukko5.jpg, download this and save it)

Don't feel like you have to learn every command, every argument and every method. We all look everything up all the time. The key is to know enough that you can articulate your question. Most questions are already answered on the internet.

QUESTIONS?

CENTRE FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY METHODOLOGIES

@gregmci Greg McInerny

This book does *not* contain discussions about which sort of plot is most appropriate for a particular sort of data, nor does it contain guidelines for correct graphical presentation. In fact, instructions are provided for producing types of plots that are generally disapproved of...

Paul Murrell (2006) R graphics. Chapman & Hall.

correlation

IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON VISUALIZATION AND COMPUTER GRAPHICS, VOL. 20, NO. 12, DECEMBER 2014

Ranking Visualizations of Correlation Using Weber's Law

Lane Harrison, Fumeng Yang, Steven Franconeri, Remco Chang

Abstract— Despite years of research yielding systems and guidelines to aid visualization design, practitioners still face the challenge of identifying the best visualization for a given dataset and task. One promising approach to circumvent this problem is to leverage perceptual laws to quantitatively evaluate the effectiveness of a visualization design. Following previously established methodologies, we conduct a large scale (n=1687) crowdsourced experiment to investigate whether the perception of correlation in nine commonly used visualizations can be modeled using Weber's law. The results of this experiment contribute to our understanding of information visualization by establishing that: 1) for all tested visualizations, the precision of correlation judgment could be modeled by Weber's law, 2) correlation judgment precision showed striking variation between negatively and positively correlated data, and 3) Weber models provide a concise means to quantify, compare, and rank the perceptual precision afforded by a visualization.

Index Terms—Perception, Visualization, Evaluation
Which of these graphs is best for noticing correlations between variables?



Which has the higher level of correlation?



Which of these graphs is best for noticing correlations between variables?



Which has the higher level of correlation?







Worse than the Worst

Below this line, the graphs were no better than assessing correlation than random guesses.







Which graph is best for noticing differences in correlation?



Which graph is best for noticing differences in correlation?



Only three graphs allowed	
users to judge any type of	
correlation better than	
random guesses.	

r = 0.1 *	r = 0.3	r = 0.5	r = 0.7	r = 0.9 *	overall
pcp-negative	pcp-negative	scatterplot-positive	scatterplot-negative	scatterplot-negative	scatterplot-positive
scatterplot-positive	scatterplot-positive	pcp-negative	scatterplot-positive	scatterplot-positive	pcp-negative
scatterplot-negative	scatterplot-negative	scatterplot-negative	pcp-negative	pcp-negative	scatterplot-negative
stackedbar-negative	stackedbar-negative	stackedbar-negative	stackedbar-negative	ordered line-positive	stackedbar-negative
ordered line-positive	ordered line-positive	ordered line-positive	ordered line-positive	donut-negative	ordered line-positive
donut-negative	donut-negative	donut-negative	donut-negative	ordered line-negative	donut-negative
stackarea-negative	stackarea-negative	stackarea-negative	ordered line-negative	stackedbar-negative	stackarea-negative
ordered line-negative	ordered line-negative	ordered line-negative	stackarea-negative	stackedline-negative	ordered line-negative
stackedline-negative	stackedline-negative	stackedline-negative	stackedline-negative	stackarea-negative	stackedline-negative
pcp-positive	pcp-positive	pcp-positive	pcp-positive	radar-positive	pcp-positive
radar-positive	radar-positive	radar-positive	radar-positive	pcp-positive	radar-positive
line-positive	line-positive	line-positive	line-positive	line-positive	line-positive

Fig. 7: Using the inferred Weber models, we can produce a perceptually-driven ranking for individual correlation (r) values, as well as an overall ranking (right column). Performance is ordered from the best (top) to the worst (bottom). The columns denoted by * are predicted responses using the fit models shown in Figure 6.

"Stacked" graphs all performed poorly despite being frequently found in software and reports.

C

What is an ordered line graph?

than random guesses.

In line graphs both data categories are ordered by time, chronology or an other sorting variable.

Ordered line graphs differ as one of the data categories is ordered by size.

Stacked bar Stacked

Stacked

area

line

Stacked line graphs show each data category with its value added to all the previous categories across the x-axis.

- Line graphs are surprisingly ineffective!
- Scatter plots are simple but precise.



 Design for the task(s) and the data (small multiples?)

