

# Varieties of information visualization

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Psych 6135



<http://euclid.psych.yorku.ca/www/psy6135>

@datvisFriendly

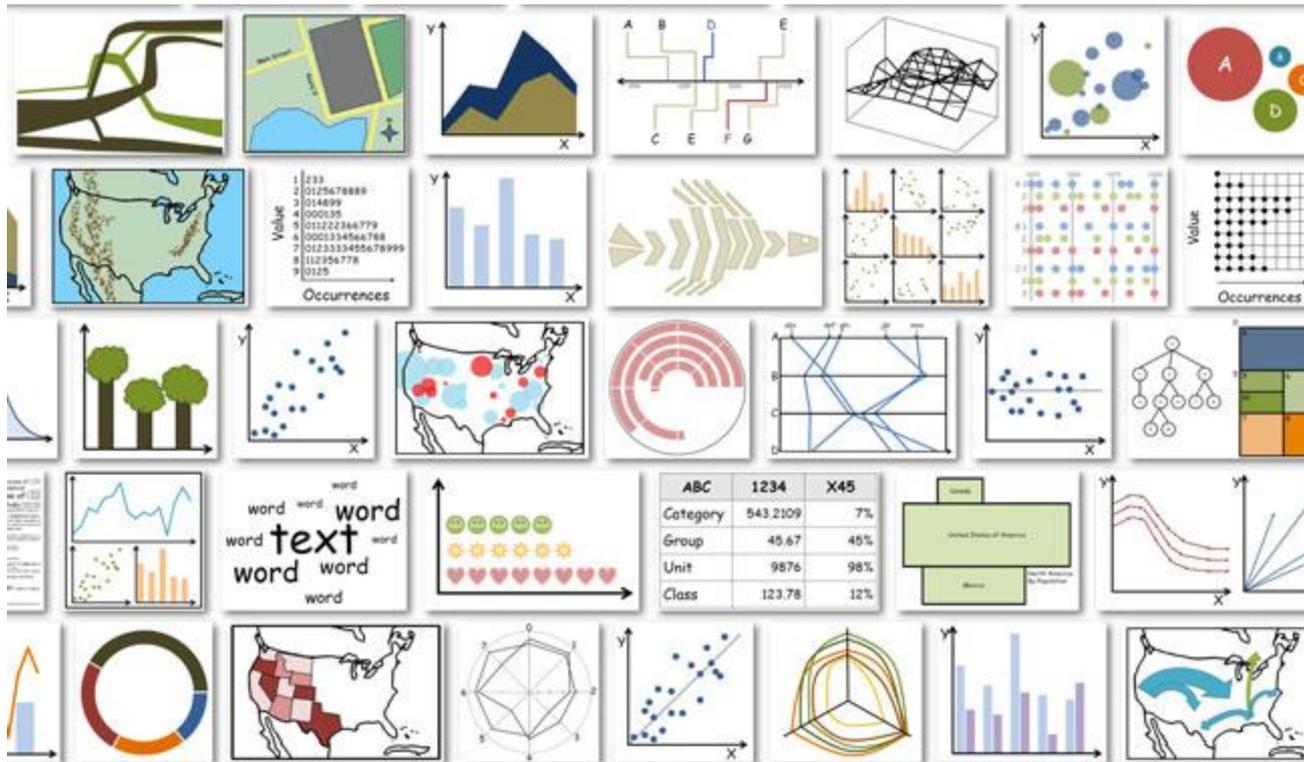


# So many types

There are so many kinds of charts, diagrams, graphs, maps

What are their features?

What tasks are they good for? – Accuracy or speed of judgment? Memorability?



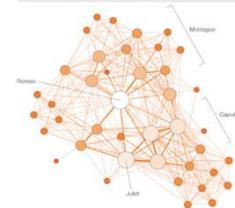
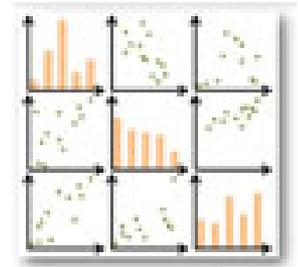
# Classify by: ???

For purposes of “What kind of graph should I use?” usually most useful to think:  
 “What do I want to show?”

Deviation	Correlation	Ranking	Distribution	Change over Time	Magnitude
<p>Emphasize variations (+/-) from a fixed reference point. Typically the reference point is zero but it can also be a target or a long-term average. Can also be used to show sentiment (positive/news/neutral/negative).</p> <p><b>Example FT uses</b>                      Trade surplus/deficit, climate change</p>	<p>Show the relationship between two or more variables. Be mindful that unless you tell them otherwise, many readers will assume the relationship you show them to be causal (i.e. one causes the other).</p> <p><b>Example FT uses</b>                      Inflation &amp; unemployment, income &amp; life expectancy</p>	<p>Use where an item's position in an ordered list is more important than its absolute or relative value. Don't be afraid to highlight the points of interest.</p> <p><b>Example FT uses</b>                      Wealth, deprivation, league tables, country/ranking election results</p>	<p>Show values in a dataset and how often they occur. The shape (or 'skew') of a distribution can be a memorable way of highlighting the lack of uniformity or equality in the data.</p> <p><b>Example FT uses</b>                      Income distribution, population (ageband) distribution</p>	<p>Give emphasis to changing trends. These can be short (intra-day) movements on extended series (spanning decades or centuries). Choosing the correct time period is important to provide suitable context for the reader.</p> <p><b>Example FT uses</b>                      Share price movements, economic time series</p>	<p>Show size comparisons. These can be relative (just being able to see larger/smaller) or absolute (need to see the differences). Usually these show a 'localized' number (for example, barrels, dollars or people) rather than a calculated rate or per cent.</p> <p><b>Example FT uses</b>                      Commodity production, market cap/ratio</p>
<p><b>Grouping bar</b>   A simple standard bar chart that can handle both negative and positive magnitude values.</p> <p><b>Grouping stacked bar</b>   Perfect for presenting survey results which involve sentiment (ag/disagree/neutral/agreed).</p> <p><b>Spine chart</b>   Splits a single value into two contrasting components (eg. male/female).</p> <p><b>Surplus/deficit filled line</b>   The shaded area of these charts allows a balance to be shown either against a baseline or between two series.</p>	<p><b>Scatterplot</b>   The standard way to show the relationship between two continuous variables, each of which has its own axis.</p> <p><b>Line + Column</b>   A good way of showing the relationship between an amount (columns) and a rate (line).</p> <p><b>Connected scatterplot</b>   Usually used to show how the relationship between 2 variables has changed over time.</p> <p><b>Bubble</b>   Like a scatterplot, but with the circles sized according to a third variable.</p> <p><b>XY heatmap</b>   A good way of showing the pattern between 2 categories of data, less good at showing fine differences in amounts.</p>	<p><b>Ordered bar</b>   Standard bar charts display the ranks of values much more easily when sorted into order.</p> <p><b>Ordered column</b>   See above.</p> <p><b>Ordered proportional symbol</b>   Use when there are big variations between values and/or sending fine differences between data is not so important.</p> <p><b>Dot strip plot</b>   Dots placed in order on a vertical axis, space-efficient method of laying out ranks across multiple categories.</p> <p><b>Slope</b>   Perfect for showing how ranks have changed over time or vary between categories.</p>	<p><b>Histogram</b>   The standard way to show a statistical distribution - keep the gaps between columns small to highlight the shape of the data.</p> <p><b>Boxplot</b>   Summarise multiple distributions by showing the median, quartiles and range of the data.</p> <p><b>Violin plot</b>   Similar to a box plot but more effective with complex distributions (data that cannot be summarised with simple statistics).</p> <p><b>Population pyramid</b>   A standard way for showing the age and sex breakdown of a population distribution effectively, back to back histograms.</p> <p><b>Dot strip plot</b>   Good for showing individual values in a distribution, can be a problem when too many dots have the same value.</p> <p><b>Heat chart</b>  </p>	<p><b>Line</b>   The standard way to show a changing time series. If data is irregular, consider markers to represent data points.</p> <p><b>Column</b>   Columns work well for showing change over time - but usually best with only one series of data at a time.</p> <p><b>Line + column</b>   A good way of showing the relationship over time between an amount (columns) and a rate (line).</p> <p><b>Stack price</b>   Usually focused on day-to-day activity, these charts show opening/closing and high/low points of each day.</p> <p><b>Slope</b>   Good for showing changing data as long as the data can be amplified into 2 or 3 points without creating a key part of story.</p>	<p><b>Column</b>   Compares the size of things. Must always start at 0 on the axis.</p> <p><b>Bar</b>   See above. Good when the data are not fine series and labels have long category names.</p> <p><b>Paired column</b>   As per standard column but allows for multiple series. Can become tricky to read with more than 2 series.</p> <p><b>Paired bar</b>   See above.</p> <p><b>Proportional stacked bar</b>   A good way of showing the size and proportion of data at the same time - as long as the data aren't too complicated.</p>

# Topics, by graph type

- Statistical data graphs
  - 1D: dotplot, boxplot, violin plot
  - 1.5D: time-series plot, density plot, bar chart, pie chart
  - 2D: scatterplot, ridgeline plot
  - 3D: contour plot, 3D scatterplot, surface plot
- Thematic maps
  - Choropleth map
  - Anamorphic map
  - Flow maps
- Network & tree visualization
- Animation & interactive graphics



ROMEO AND JULIET  
Number of characters 41 | 37% Network density

What are dimensions

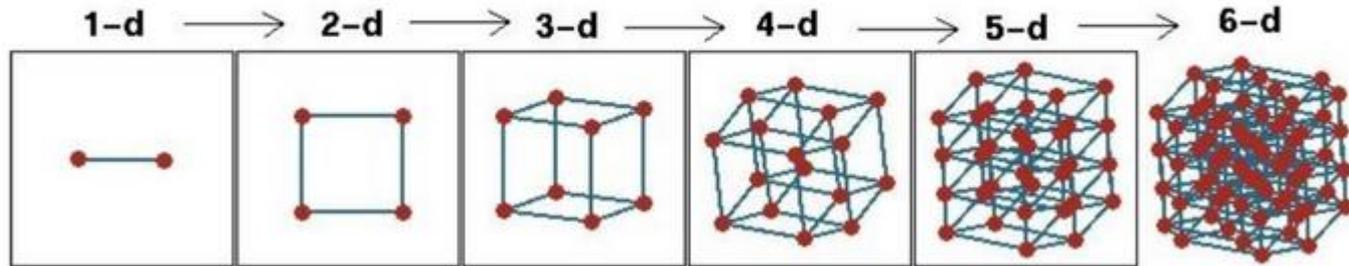


Fig credit: Di Cook [@visnut](#)

- 1 D
- 1.5 D
- 2 D
- 3 D
- $n$  D ?

Data graphs can be classified by the number of variables, dimensions shown in a given graph

# Data graphs

# 1D: Infographic vs. Data graphic

The same data can be shown in different forms, for different purposes

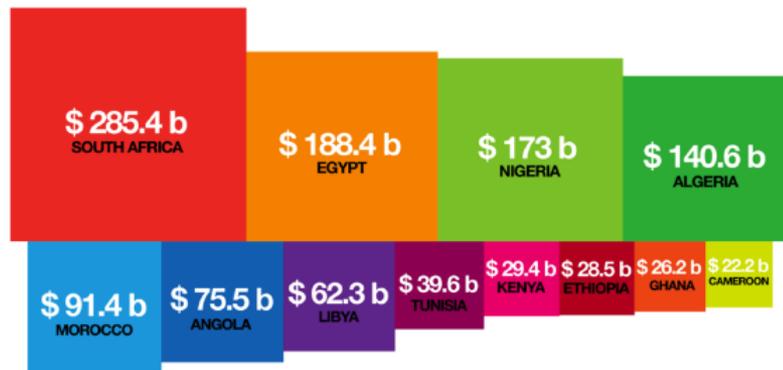
## African Countries by GDP

### TOP COUNTRIES BY GDP IN U.S. \$ BILLIONS

Gross domestic product (GDP) refers to the market value of all final goods and services produced within a country in a given period (2000 - 2009).

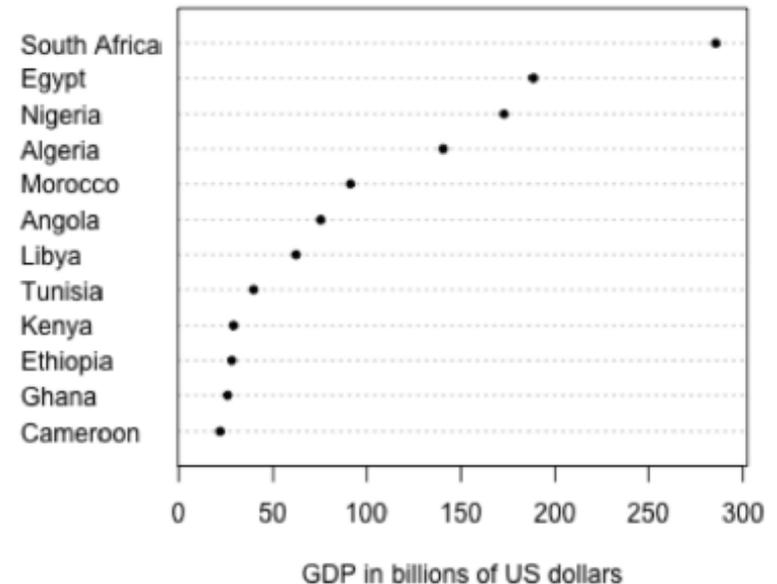
### GDP CALCULATION

private consumption + gross investment + government spending + (exports - imports)



One might argue that this infographic has greater impact in showing the relative size of GDP

## African Countries by GDP



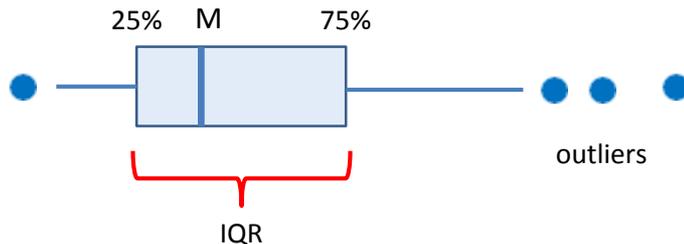
One might argue that this statistical graph makes comparisons easier

# 1.5D: Dotplots & boxplots

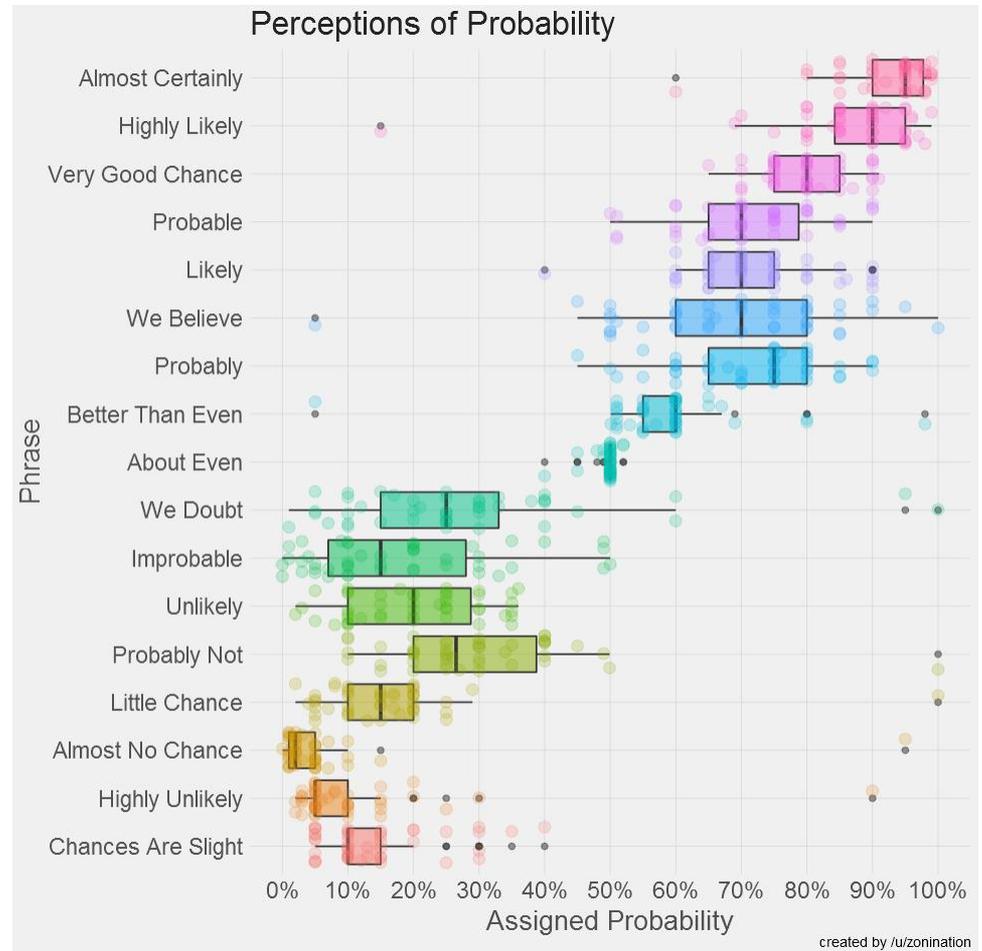
## What number do you give to a probability phrase?

Boxplots summarize the important characteristics of a univariate data distribution:

- center (median)
- spread (IQR)
- shape (symmetric? skewed?)
- outliers?



This example overlays the boxplot with a jittered dotplot, so we can also see the individual observations



This visualization made the longlist for the 2015 Kantar Information is beautiful award. Data & R code:

<https://github.com/zonation/perceptions>

# 1.5D: Density ridgeline plots

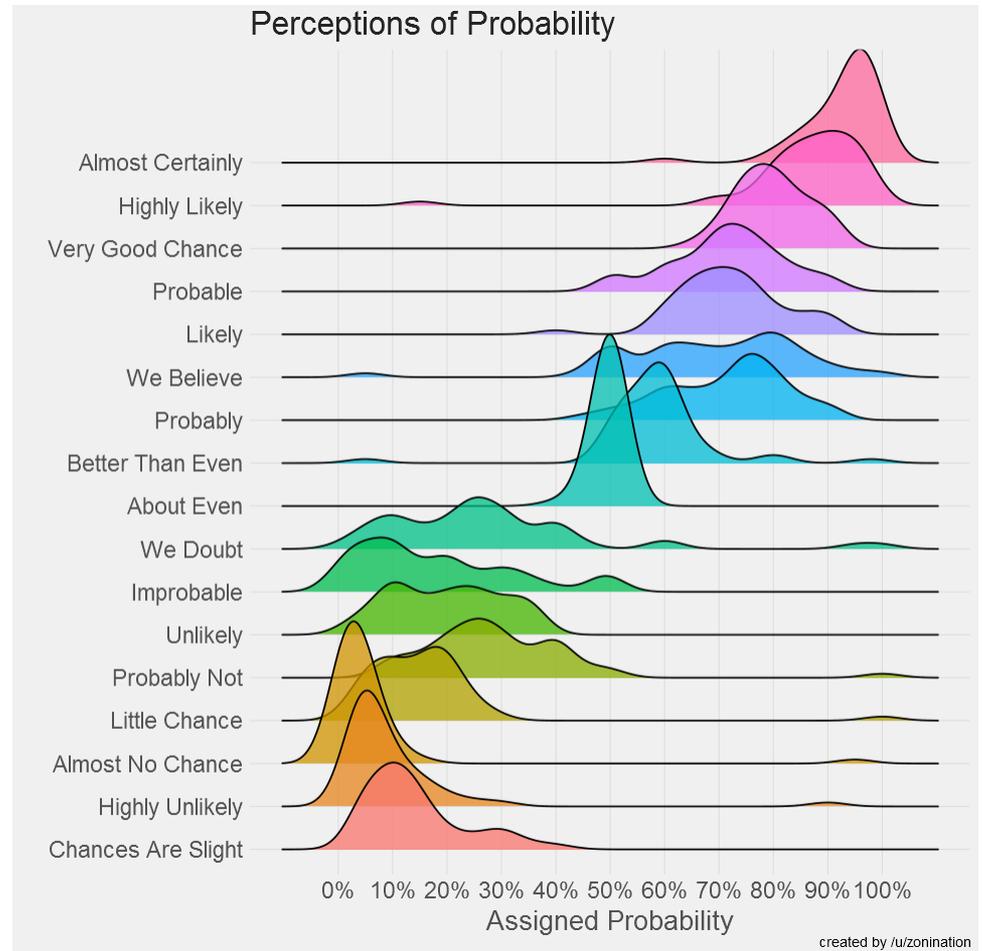
Another possible 1D display is a **density estimate**— a statistically smoothed histogram.

For comparing a set of them, a ridgeline plot stacks them vertically to create the impression of a mountain range.

As in the boxplot version, this uses:

- a progressive scale of colors
- transparent colors to handle overlap

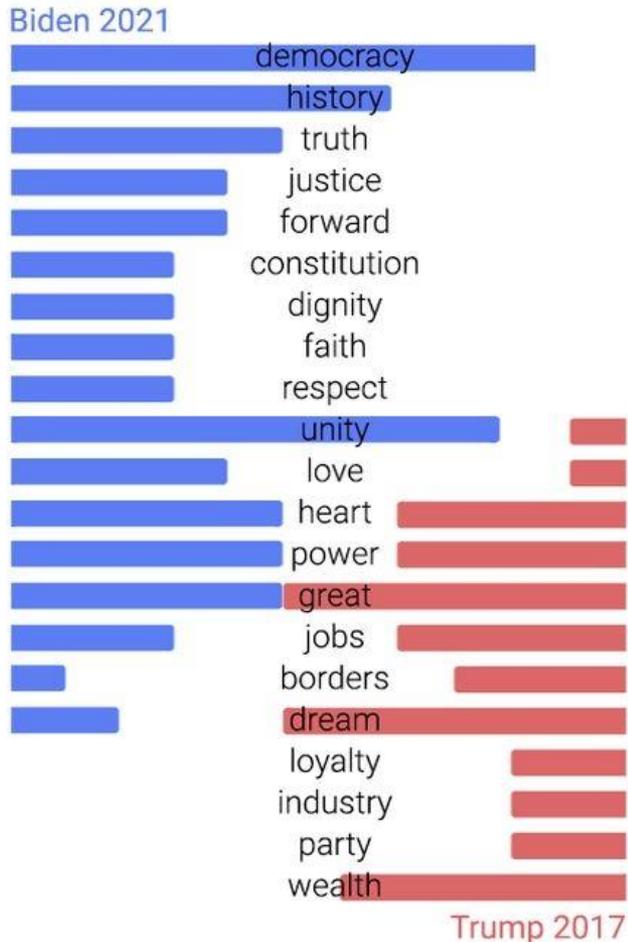
Q: What features stand out here?



**Software note:** These figures are drawn with R, using ggplot2 and the ggridges package. See: <https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/ggridges/vignettes/introduction.html>

# 1.5D: Text bar charts

Inaugural Address: Word Frequency



- Text can be analyzed as data also, most often in frequency counts.
- This chart uses a novel design to compare the most frequent words by Biden (2021) & Trump (2017) in their inaugural addresses.
- The contrast is striking!
  - **democracy, unity** vs. **great, dream**

From:

[https://www.reddit.com/r/dataisbeautiful/comments/l7k0f0/us\\_inauguration\\_address\\_word\\_frequency\\_biden\\_vs/](https://www.reddit.com/r/dataisbeautiful/comments/l7k0f0/us_inauguration_address_word_frequency_biden_vs/)

# 1.5D: Time series line graphs

William Playfair (1786), *The Commercial and Political Atlas*, invented the time series line graph as a way to show data on England's trade with other countries

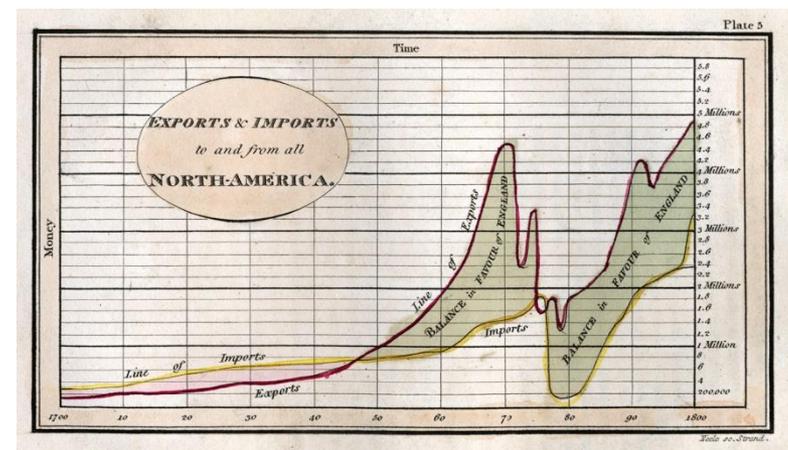
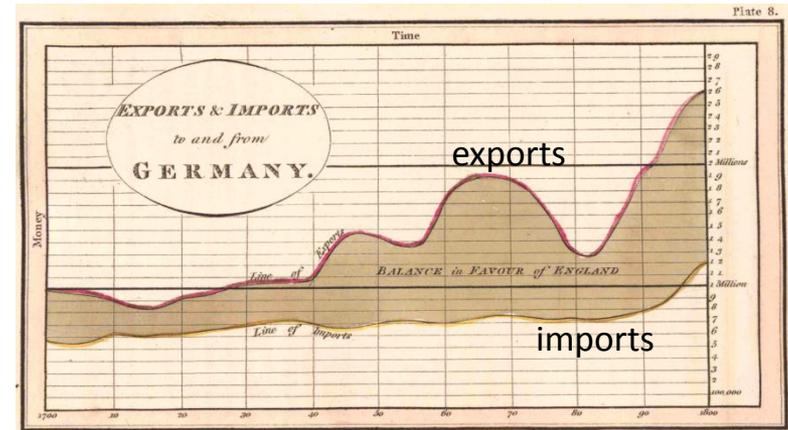
One curve for imports, one for exports

The **balance of trade** could be seen as the difference between the curves

Trade with Germany was consistently in favor of England

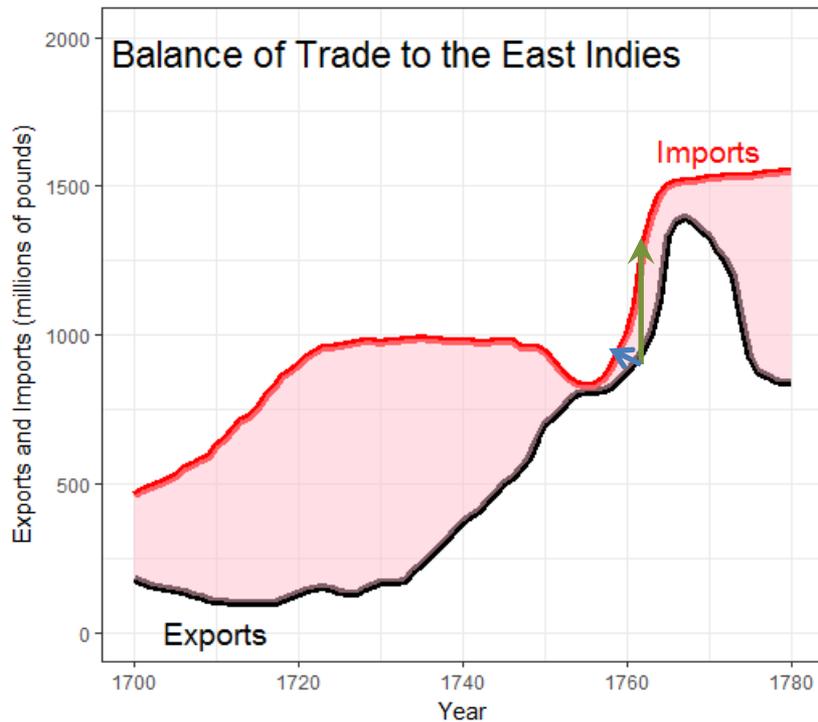
With North America, the balance changed back and forth over time

Economic 'history' could now be visualized and explained

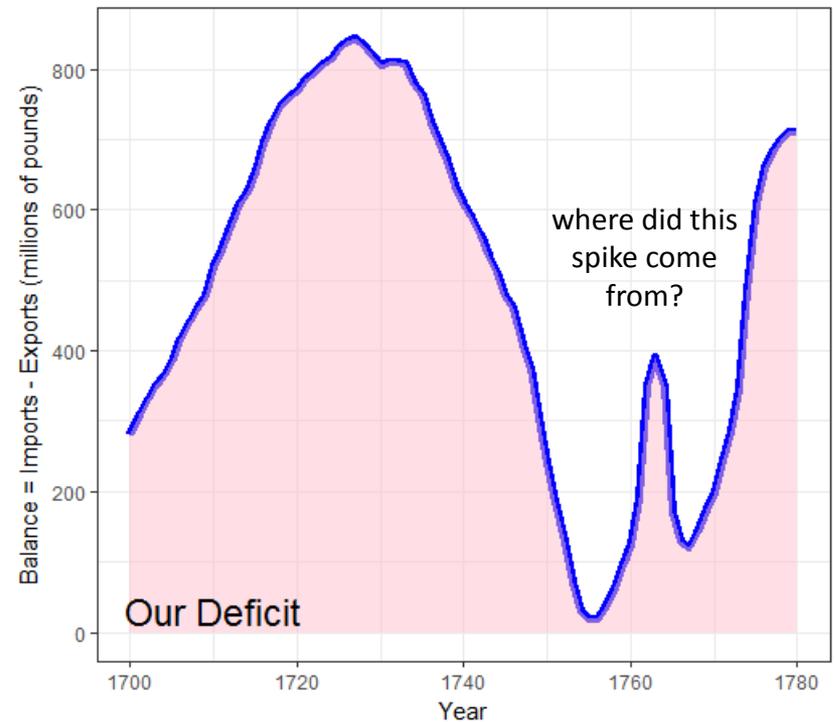


# Psychology: Distances between curves

What Playfair didn't know is that judgments of **distance** between curves are **biased**  
We tend to see the **perpendicular** distance rather than the **vertical** distance

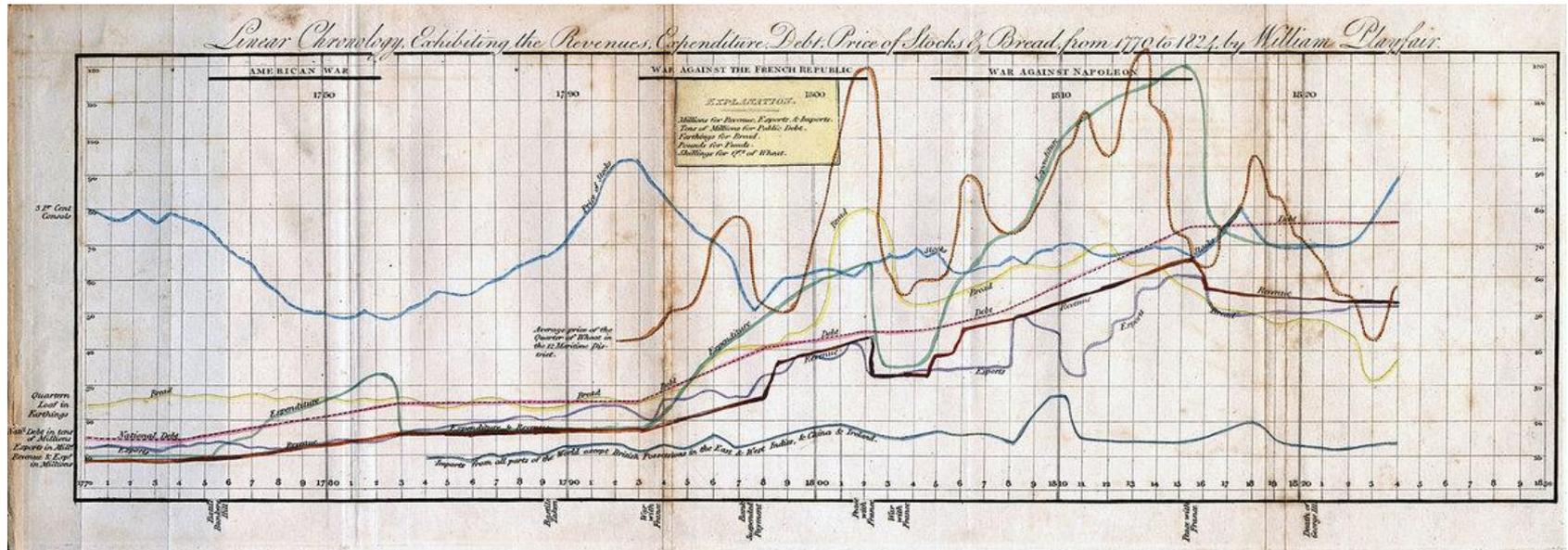


Plotting balance of trade directly



# Multiple time series graphs

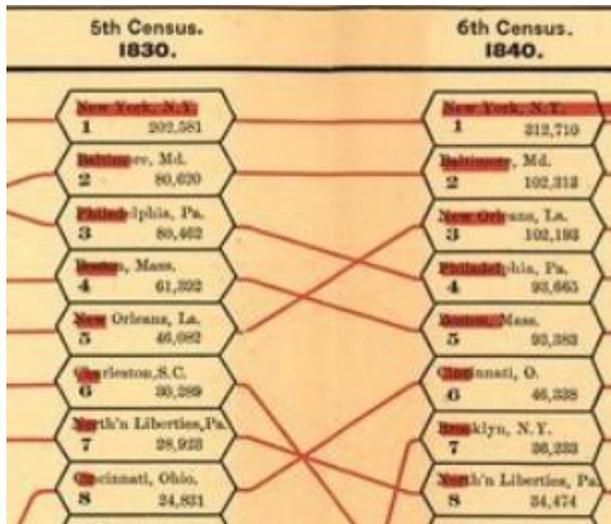
Things get messy when there are many series to be compared  
To be fair, this was designed as **timeline of history**— a visual story of economics. It was Playfair's last graph. History shown as a **strip-chart recording** (e.g., EKG)



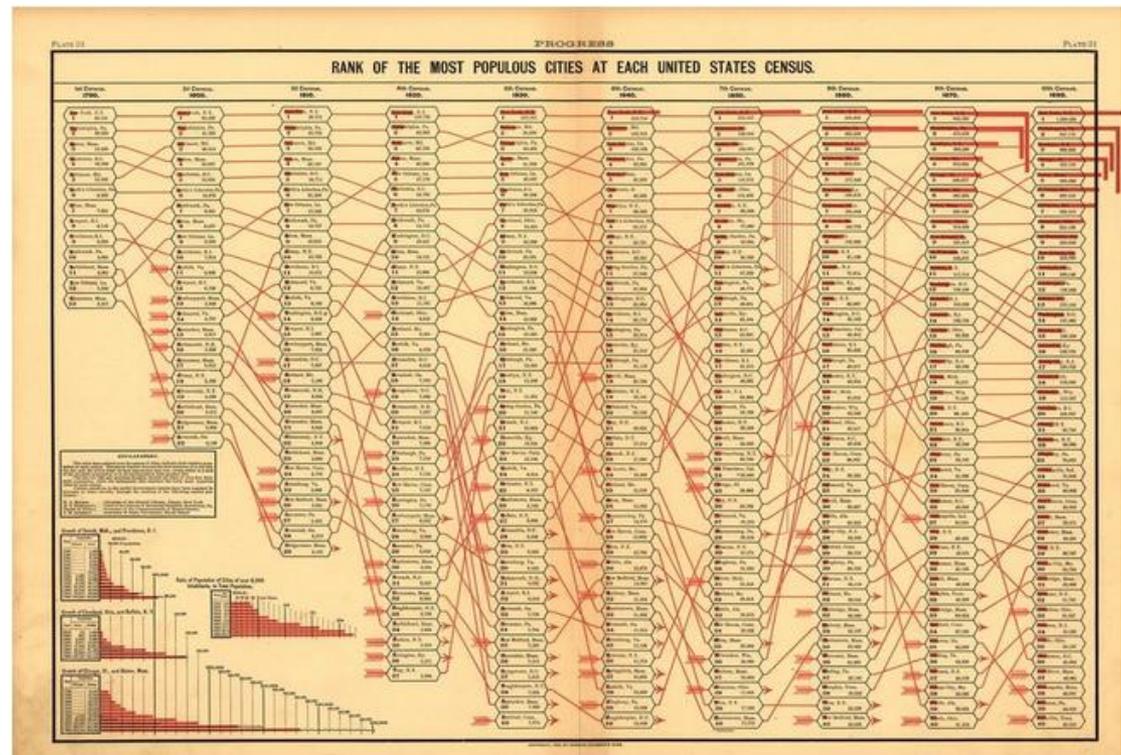
Playfair, W. (1824) *Chronology of Public Events and Remarkable Occurrences*.

# Parallel ranked list charts

Another solution for multiple time series is to chart the **rank**s of observations and connect them with lines to show changes in relative position.



Slopes of lines reflect change in rank  
**Red** bars try to show the numbers



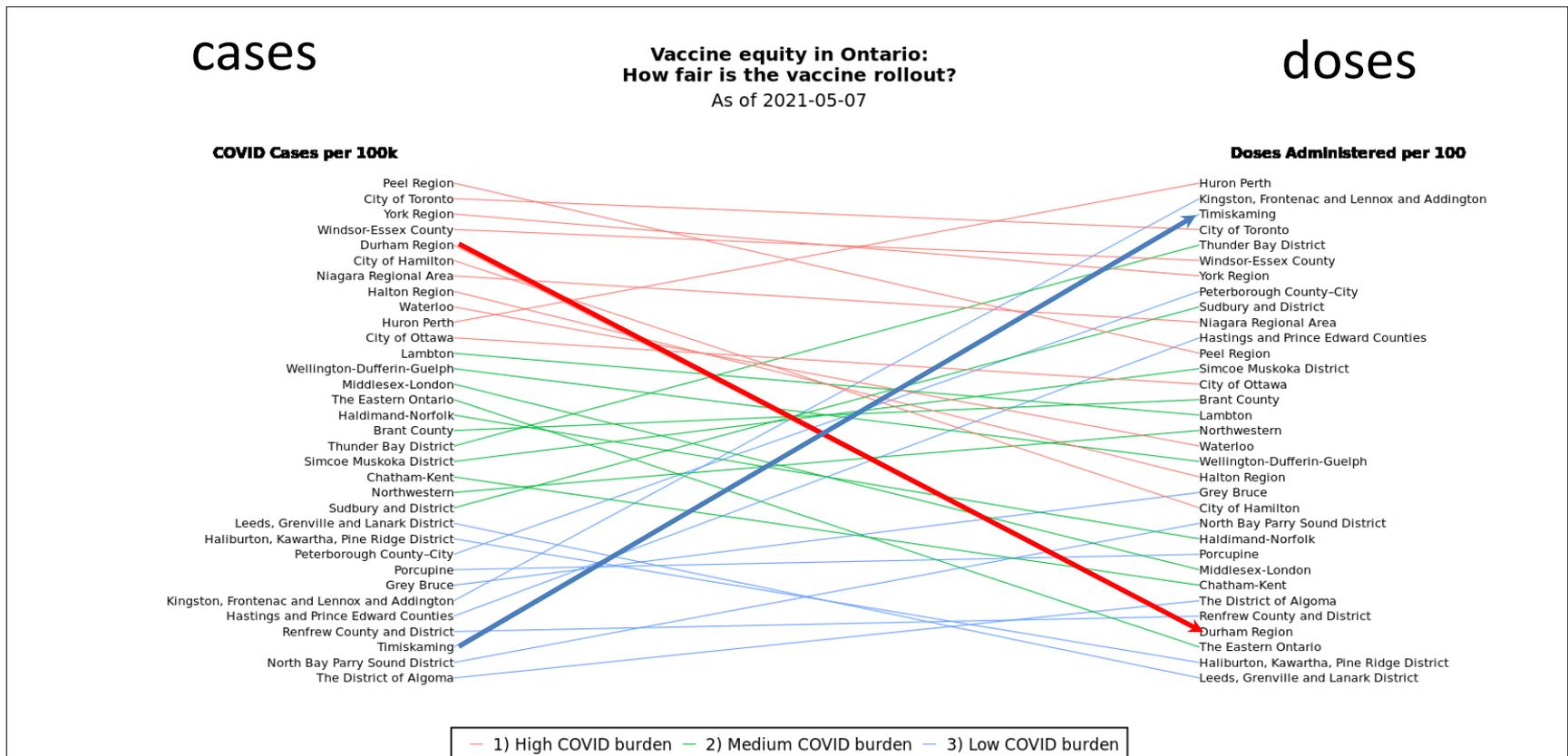
From: *Statistical Atlas of the United States* (1880)

# COVID: Cases vs. Doses

Vaccine equity → all lines should be ≈ flat

Which health regions stand out?

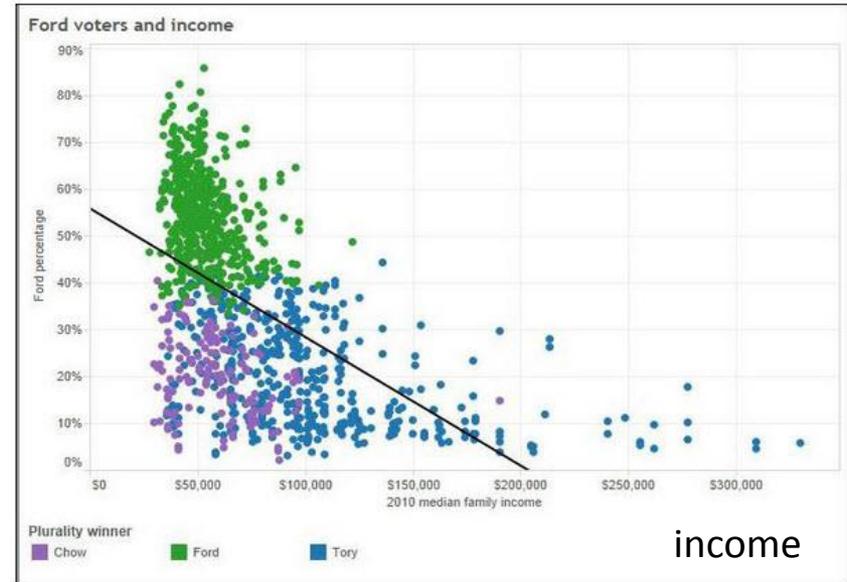
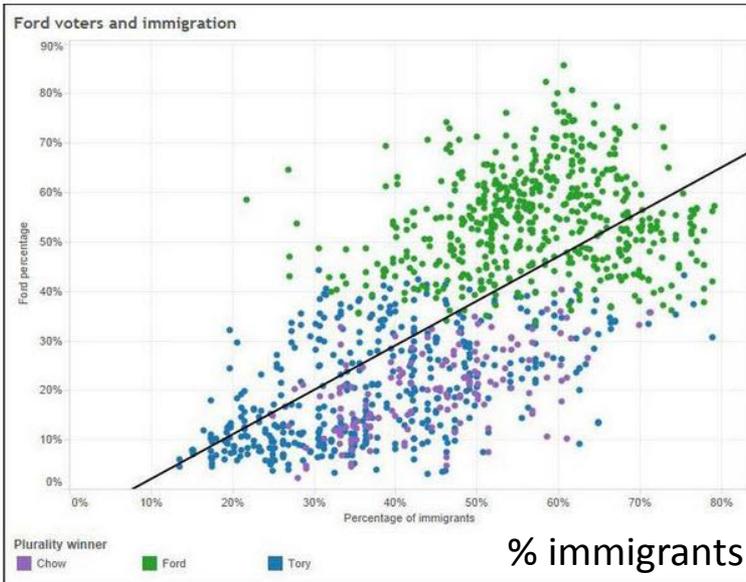
How could this graph be better?



# 2D: Scatterplots: Ford Nation



Who voted for Rob Ford in the 2014 Toronto mayoral election?



These simple scatterplots by data journalist Patrick Cain use simple enhancements:

- Color, for candidate (Chow, Ford, Tory)
- Overall regression line

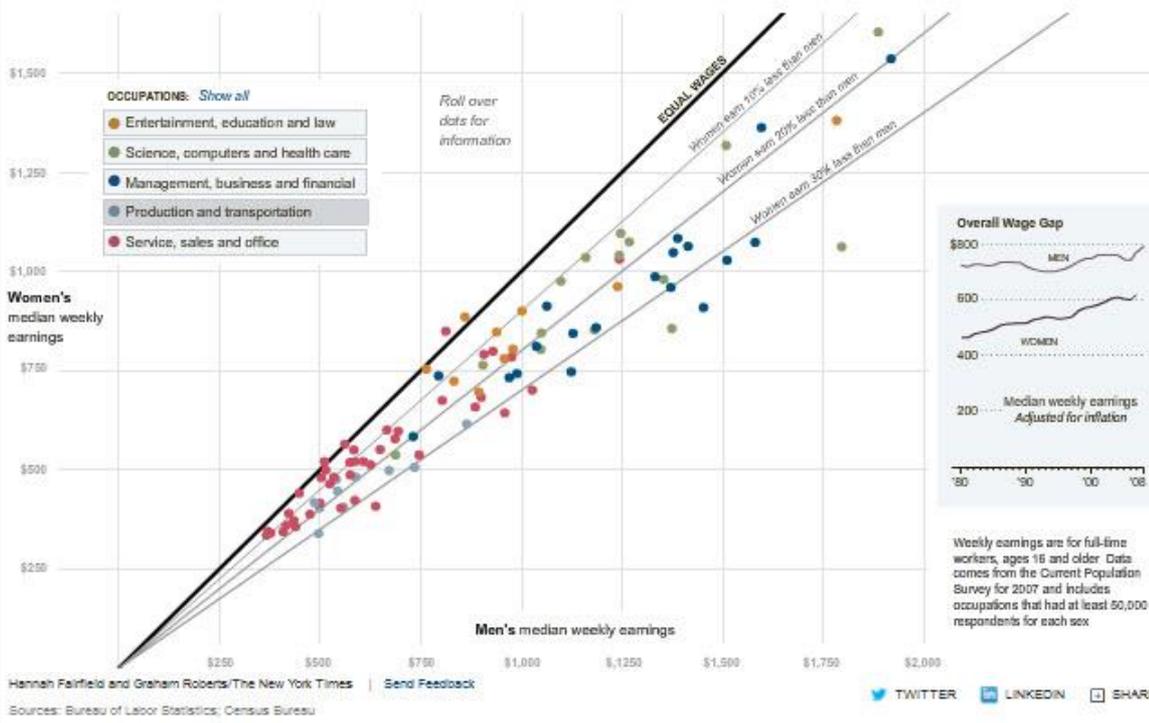
Source: <https://globalnews.ca/news/1652571/ford-nation-2014-15-things-demographics-tell-us-about-toronto-voters/>

# Scatterplots: Wage gap

Published: May 18, 2010

## Why Is Her Paycheck Smaller?

Nearly every occupation has the gap — the seemingly unbridgeable chasm between the size of the paycheck brought home by a woman and the larger one earned by a man doing the same job. Economists cite a few reasons: discrimination as well as personal choices within occupations are two major factors, and part of the gap can be attributed to men having more years of experience and logging more hours.



How to compare salaries of men & women in different occupations?

The NYT chose to plot median salaries for women against those for men, in different occupational groups

The 45° line represents wage parity  
Other lines show 10, 20, 30% less for women

How else to show this?

Alberto Cairo, *The Truthful Art*, Fig 9.19, from:

[http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2009/03/01/business/20090301\\_WageGap.html](http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2009/03/01/business/20090301_WageGap.html)

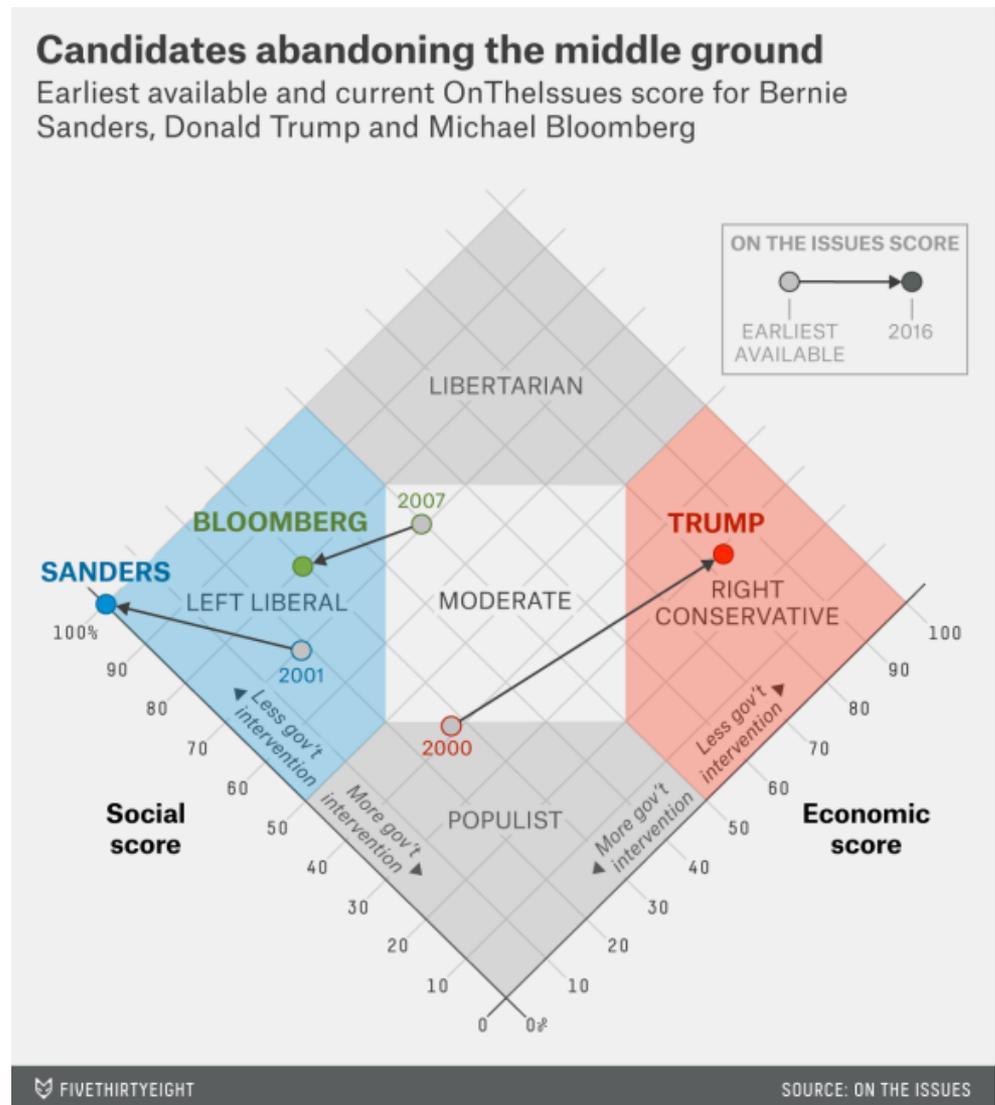
# Scatterplots: InfoVis

This graph, from [fivethirtyeight.com](http://fivethirtyeight.com) was designed to show how some presidential candidates had shifted positions before the 2016 election.

The axes are a score on **social** and **economic** policy, but they rotate the axes by 45° to create zones related to political thought.

This info graphic is **eye-catching** and **self-explanatory**:

- colored/labeled zones
- interpretive labels on axes
- arrows showing movement to extremes



# Scatterplots: Annotations enhance perception

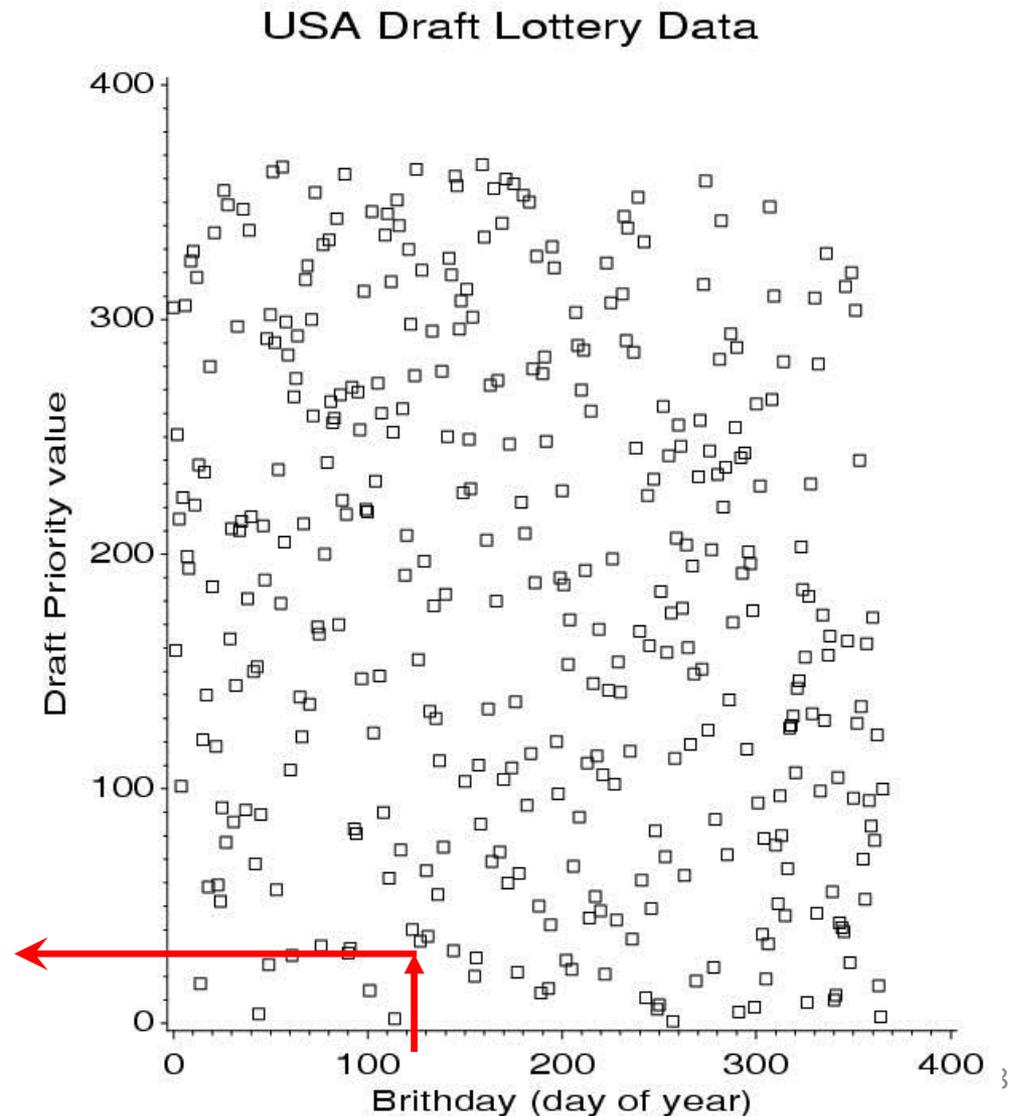
Data from the US draft lottery, 1970

- Birth dates were drawn at random to assign a “draft priority value” (1=bad)
- Can you see any pattern or trend?

This is an example of data with a weak signal and a lot of noise



Me (May 7):  
127 → priority = 35

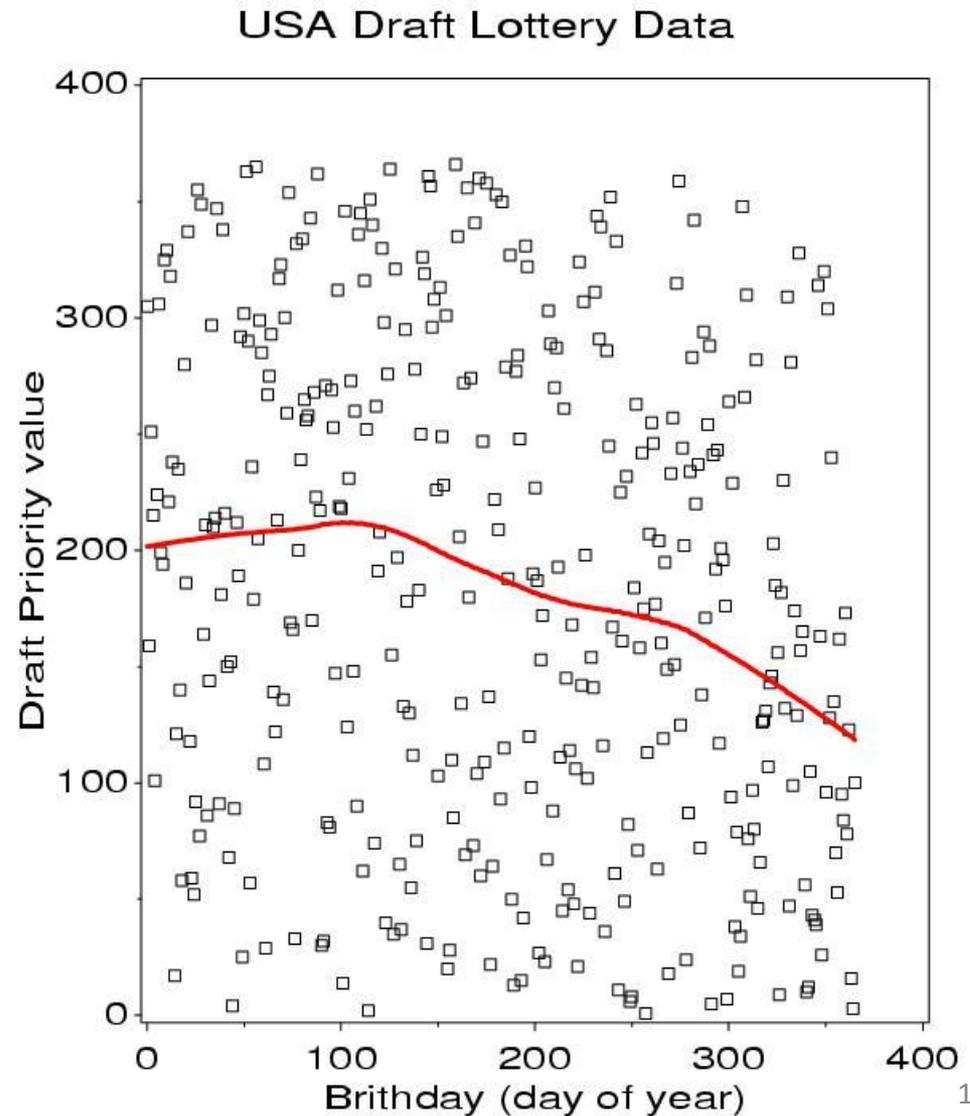


# Scatterplots: Smoothing enhances perception

Drawing a smooth curve shows a systematic decrease toward the end of the year.

- The smooth curve is fit by **loess**, a form of non-parametric regression.

Visual explanation:

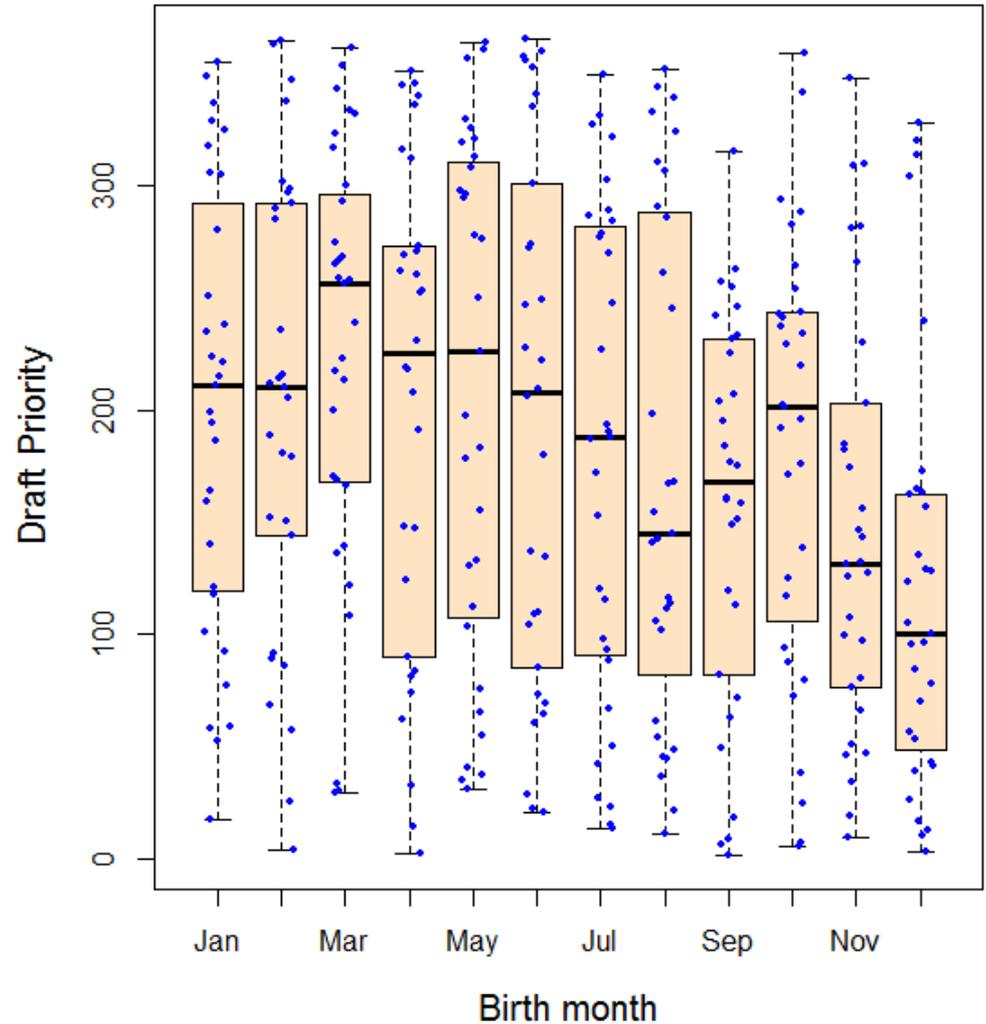


# Smoothing by grouping and summarization

Another form of smoothing is to make one variable discrete & show a graphical summary – here a boxplot

The decrease in later months becomes apparent

Perception: the boxplots form the foreground; the jittered points show the data



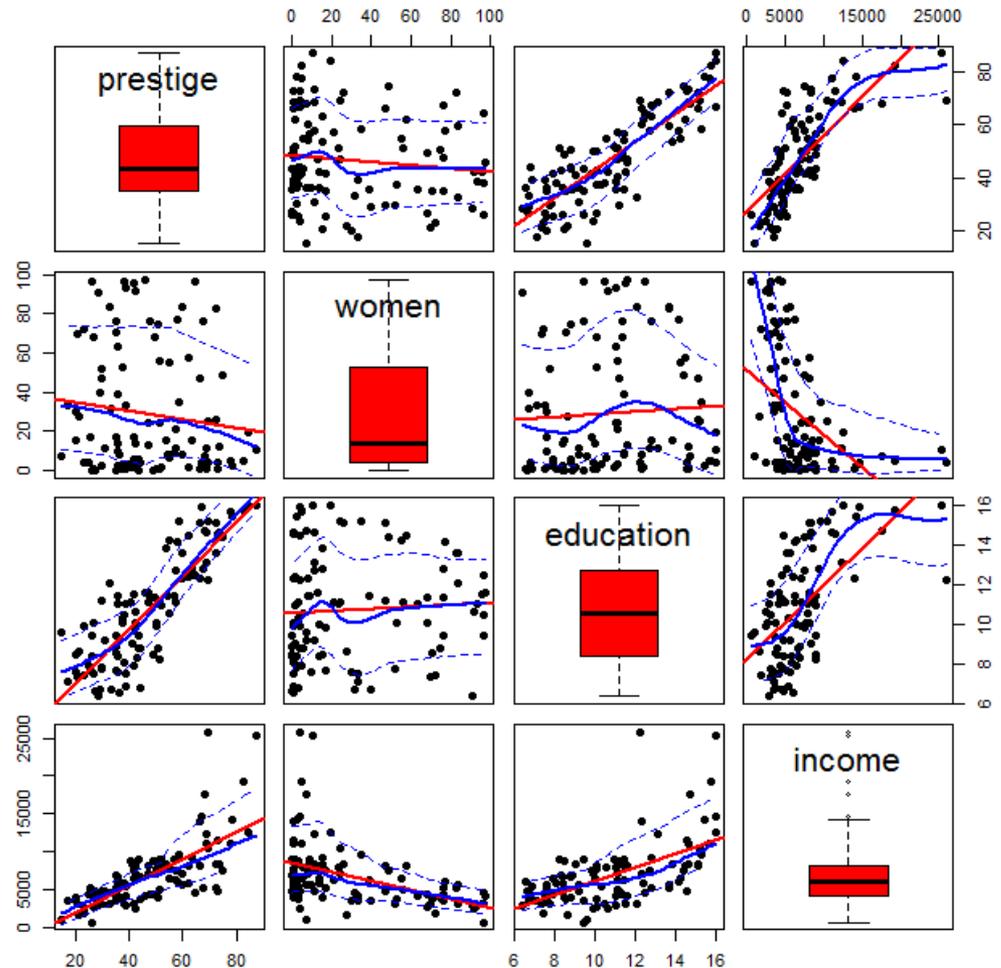
# Scatterplot matrices

A scatterplot matrix shows the bivariate relation between all **pairs** of variables. Seeing these all together is more useful than a collection of separate plots.

**How does occupational prestige depend on %women, education and income?**

The individual plots are enhanced with linear regression lines and non-parametric smooths to show non-linearity

This figure uses `scatterplotMatrix()` in the [car](#) package. There are many options.



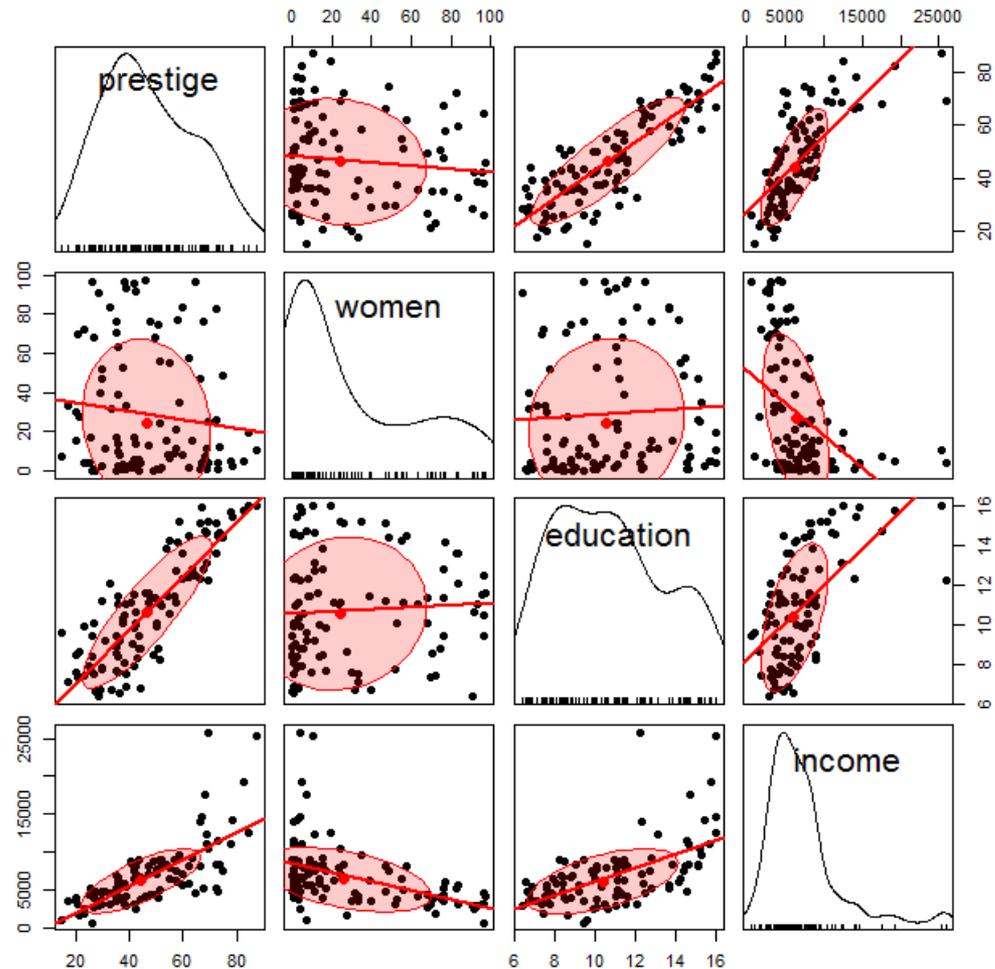
# Scatterplot matrices

**Density plots** are often more useful for showing the shapes of distributions

- women: bimodal
- income: highly skewed

A **data ellipse** gives a visual summary of the direction and strength of the relationship

Again, graphical annotation provides aids for interpretation.



# Larger data sets

Scatterplot matrices hold up reasonably well with a larger number of variables

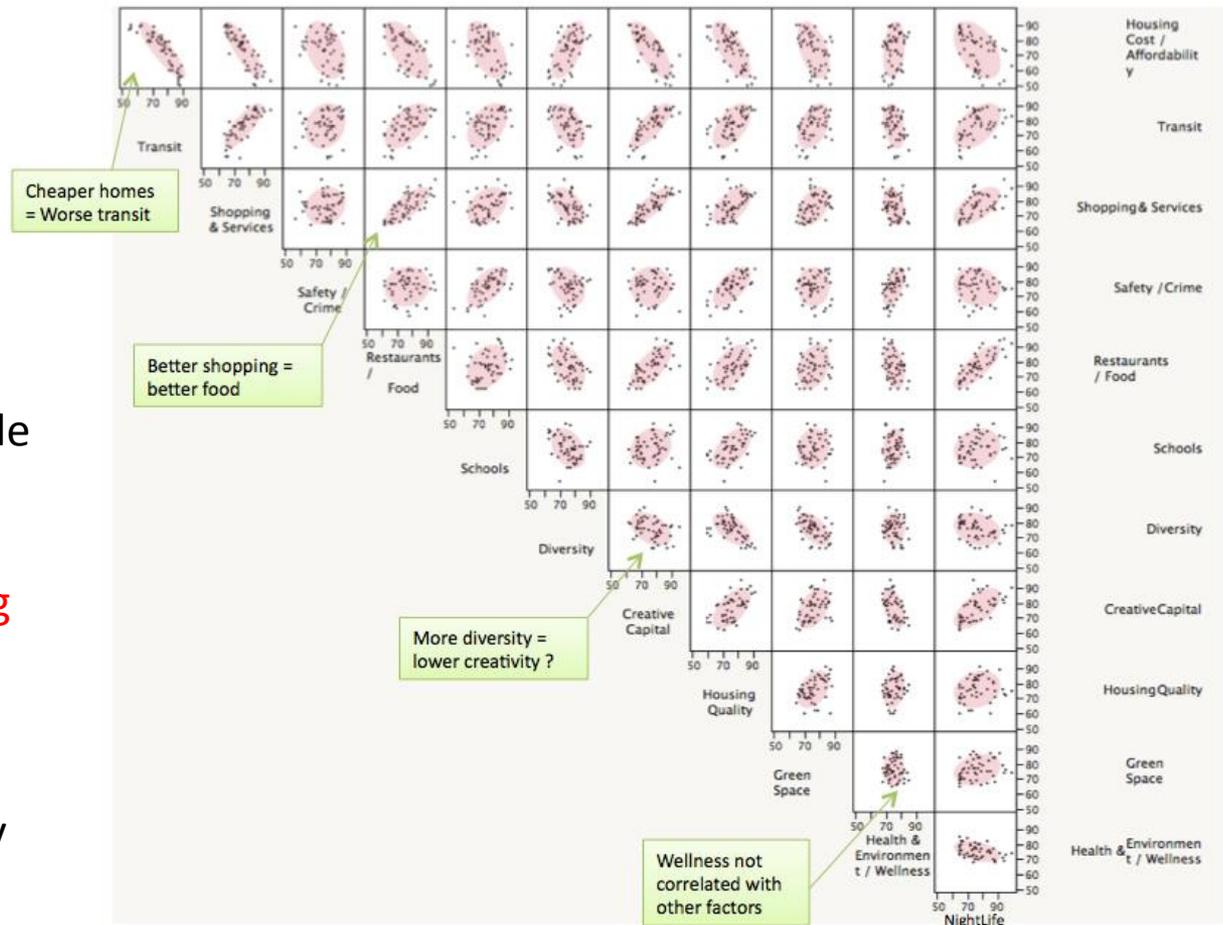
Where to live in NYC?

This SPM shows 12 variables on ~ 60 neighborhoods

The data **ellipses** provide a visual summary

I call this **visual thinning** – reducing details in a larger picture

In an interactive display we can **zoom** in/out



# Categorical data

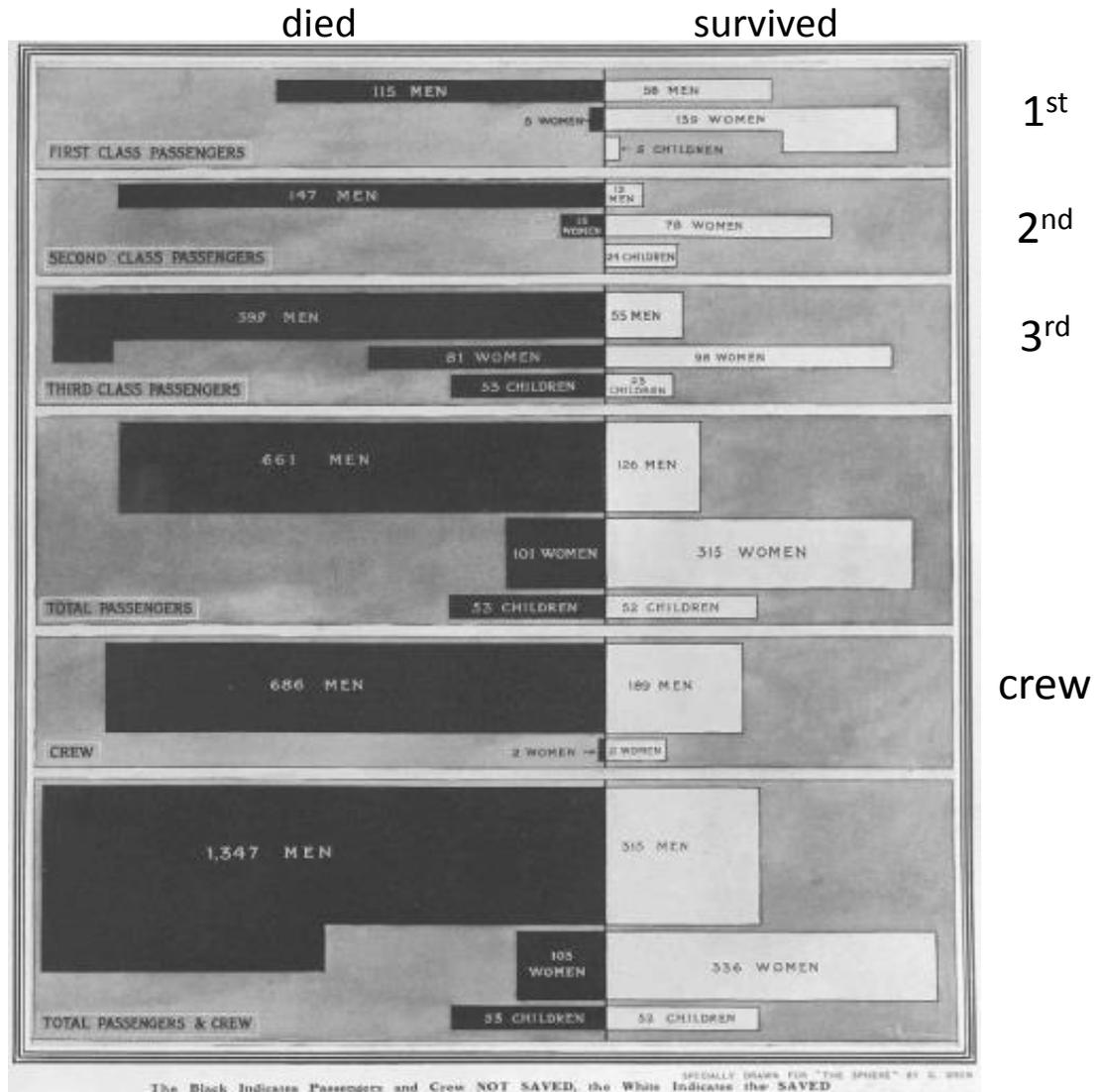
This remarkable chart shows survival on the *Titanic*, by Class for passengers and Gender and Age.

It was drawn by G. Bron, a graphic artist, and published in *The Sphere*, one month after the *Titanic* sank.

It uses back-to-back bar charts, with area ~ frequency

See our web page:

<http://datavis.ca/papers/titanic/>



# Categorical data: Mosaic plots

Similar to a grouped bar chart  
Shows a frequency table with tiles,  
area ~ frequency

```
> data(HairEyeColor)
> HEC <- margin.table(HairEyeColor, 1:2)
> HEC
```

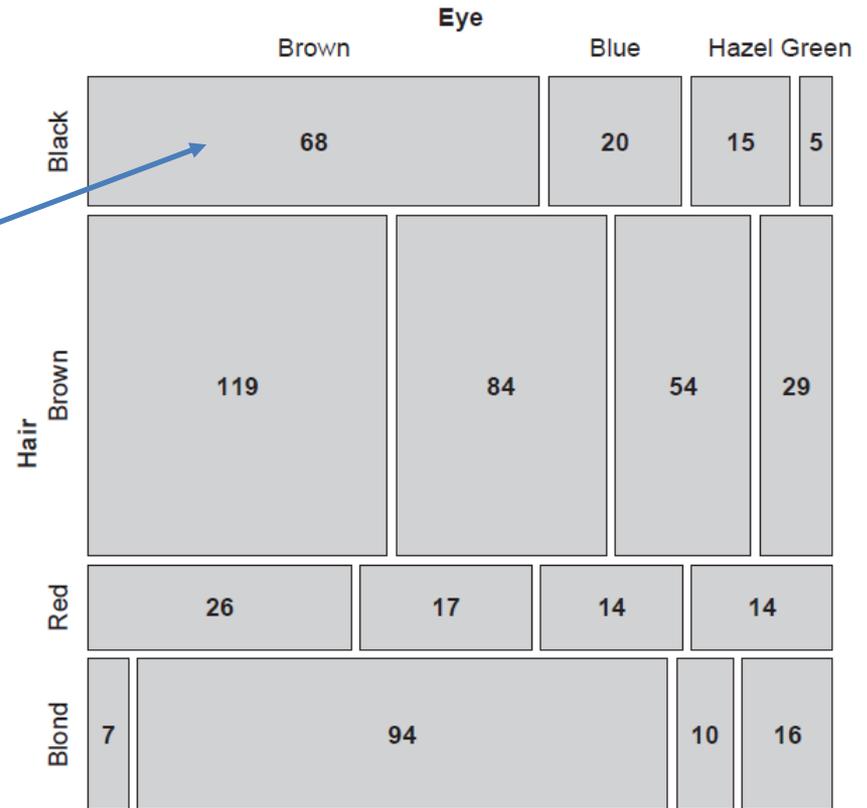
Hair	Eye			
	Brown	Blue	Hazel	Green
Black	68	20	15	5
Brown	119	84	54	29
Red	26	17	14	14
Blond	7	94	10	16

```
> chisq.test(HEC)
```

Pearson's Chi-squared test

data: HEC

X-squared = 140, df = 9, p-value <2e-16



How to understand the association  
between hair color and eye color?

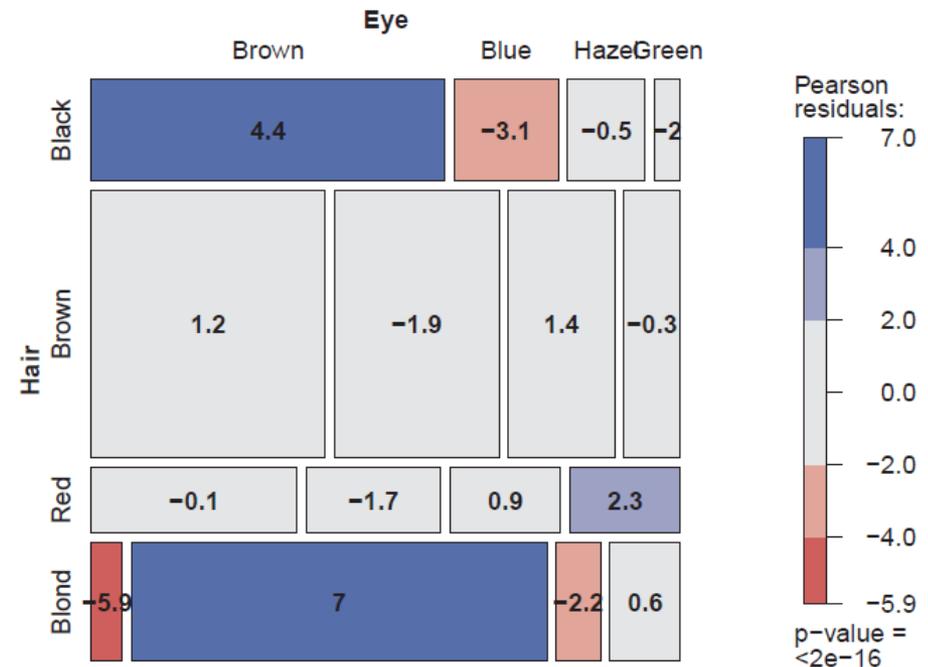
# Mosaic plots

Shade each tile in relation to the contribution to the Pearson  $\chi^2$  statistic

$$\chi^2 = \sum r_{ij}^2 = \sum \frac{(o_{ij} - e_{ij})^2}{e_{ij}}$$

```
> round(residuals(chisq.test(HEC)), 2)
```

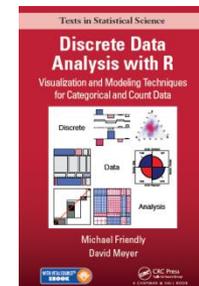
	Eye			
Hair	Brown	Blue	Hazel	Green
Black	4.40	-3.07	-0.48	-1.95
Brown	1.23	-1.95	1.35	-0.35
Red	-0.07	-1.73	0.85	2.28
Blond	-5.85	7.05	-2.23	0.61



Mosaic plots extend readily to 3-way + tables

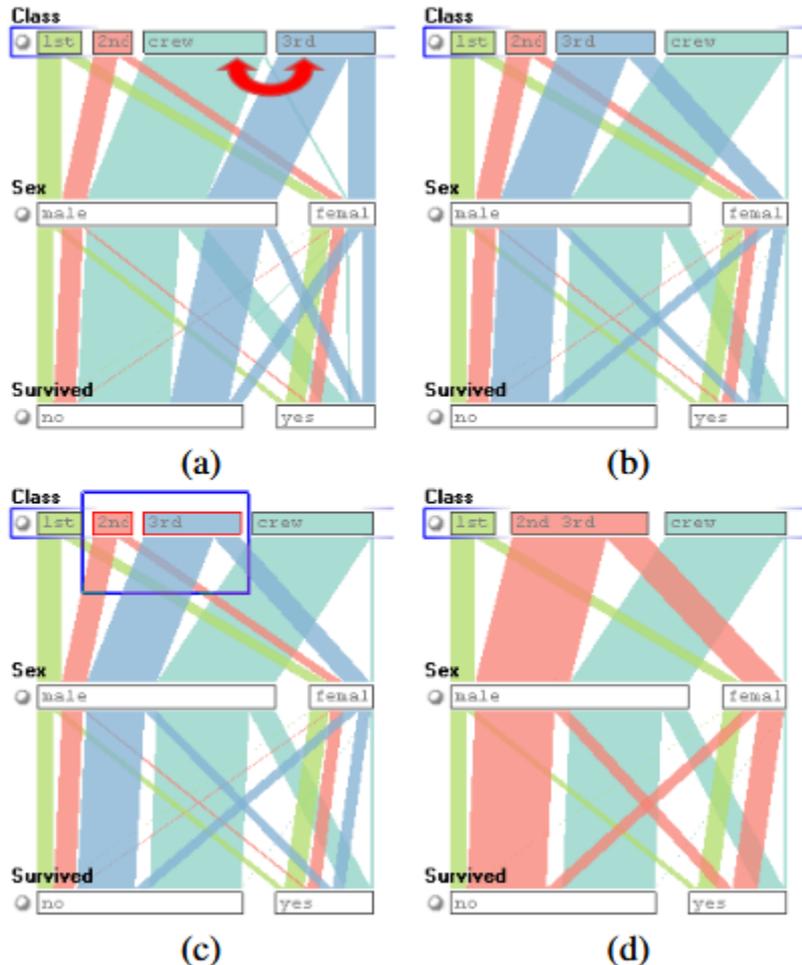
They are intimately connected with loglinear models

See: Friendly & Meyer (2016), Discrete Data Analysis with R, <http://ddar.datavis.ca/>



# Parallel Sets

Titanic data: Who survived?



Parallel sets use **parallel coordinate** axes to show the relations among categorical variables.

The frequencies of one variable (Class) are sub-divided according to the joint frequencies in the next (Sex) and shown by the width of the connecting line.

The ParSets application is interactive:

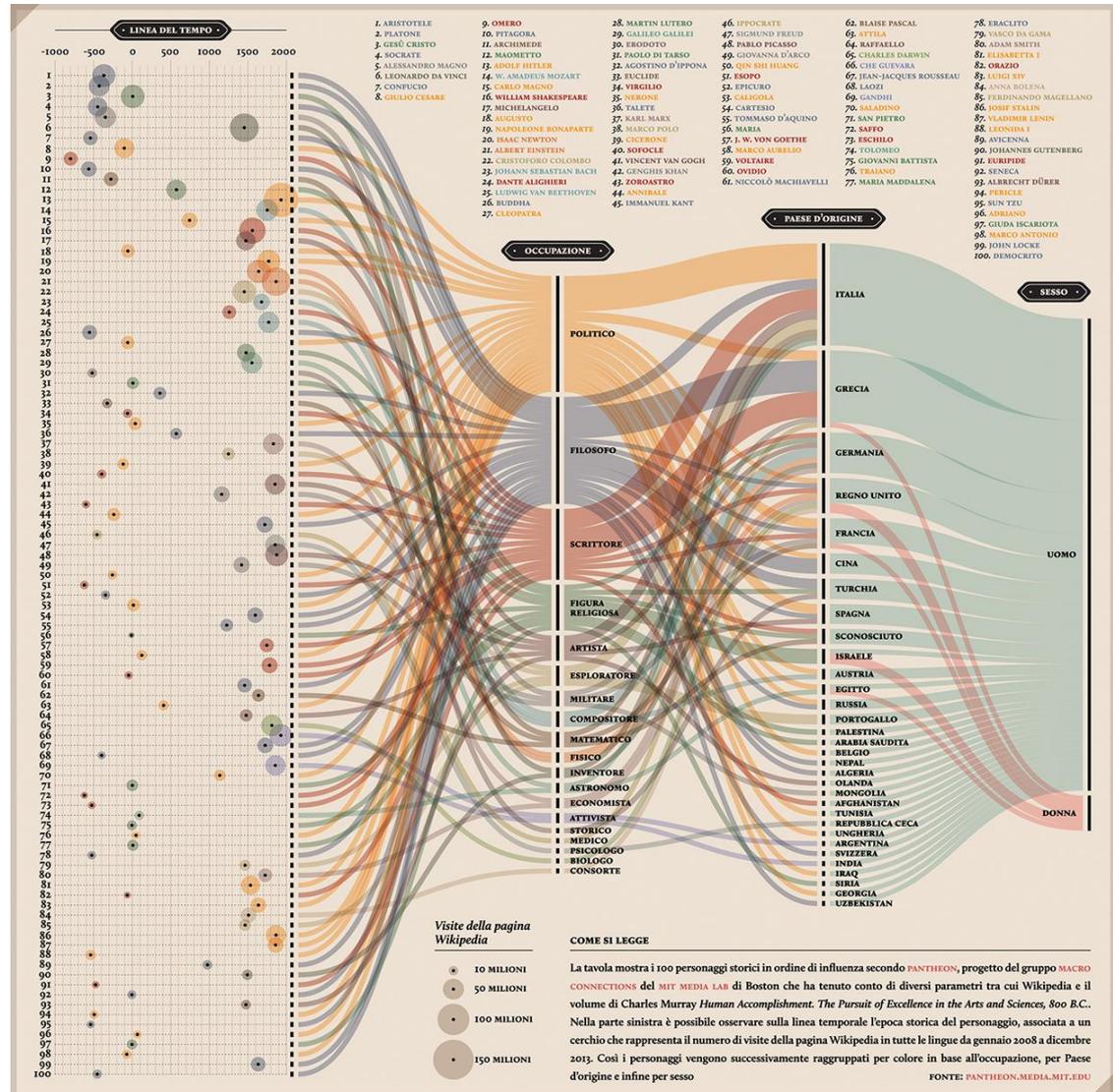
- categories can be reordered (a, b)
- categories can be grouped (c, d)

# Sankey diagram

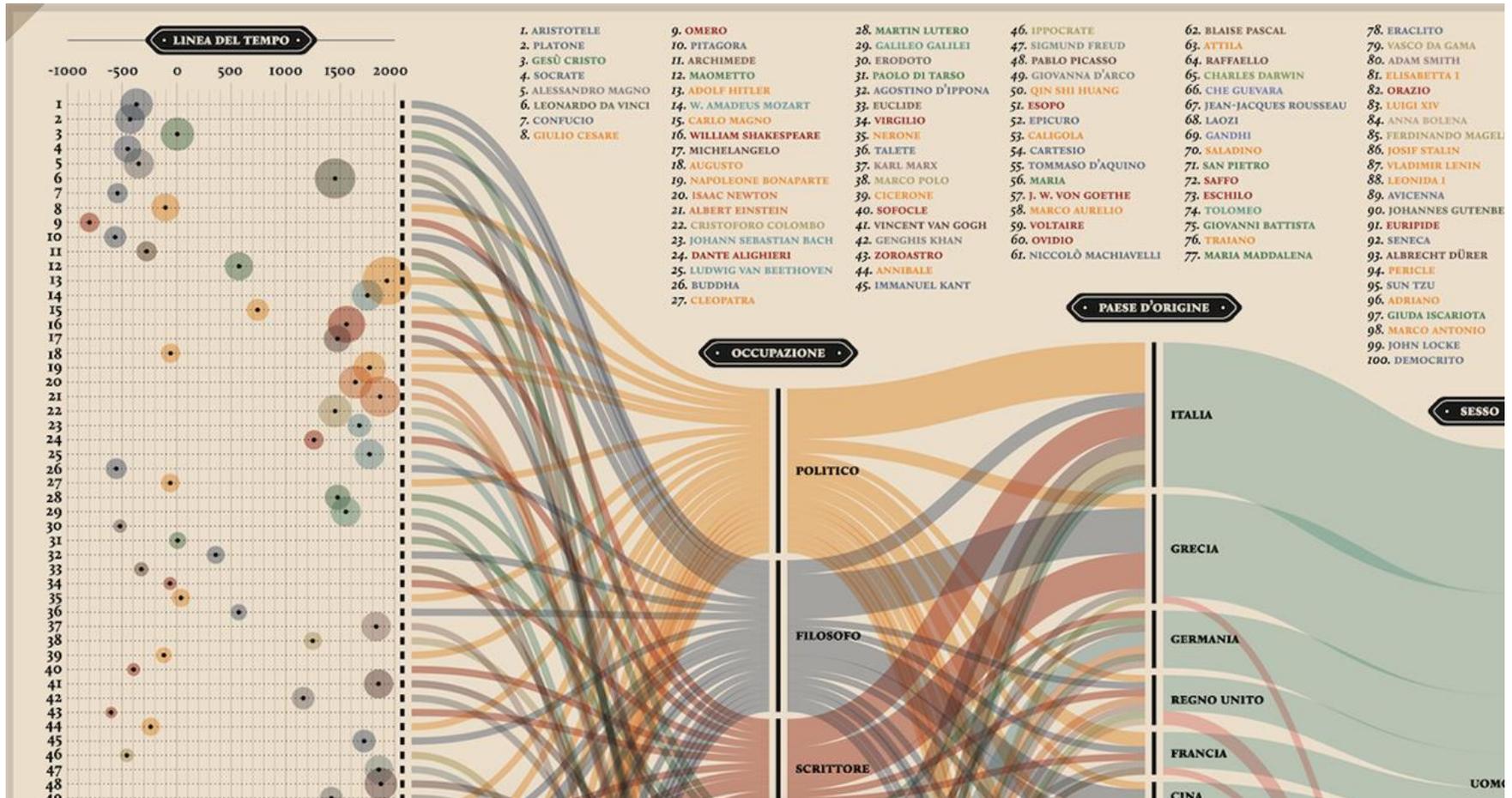
**Pantheon**, by Valerio Pellegrini  
Visualizing the 100 most influential figures in History  
(Wikipedia visits)

Columns show **occupation**,  
**country** of origin and  
**gender**

Flow lines link individuals to the column variables, width ~ influence



# Sankey diagram



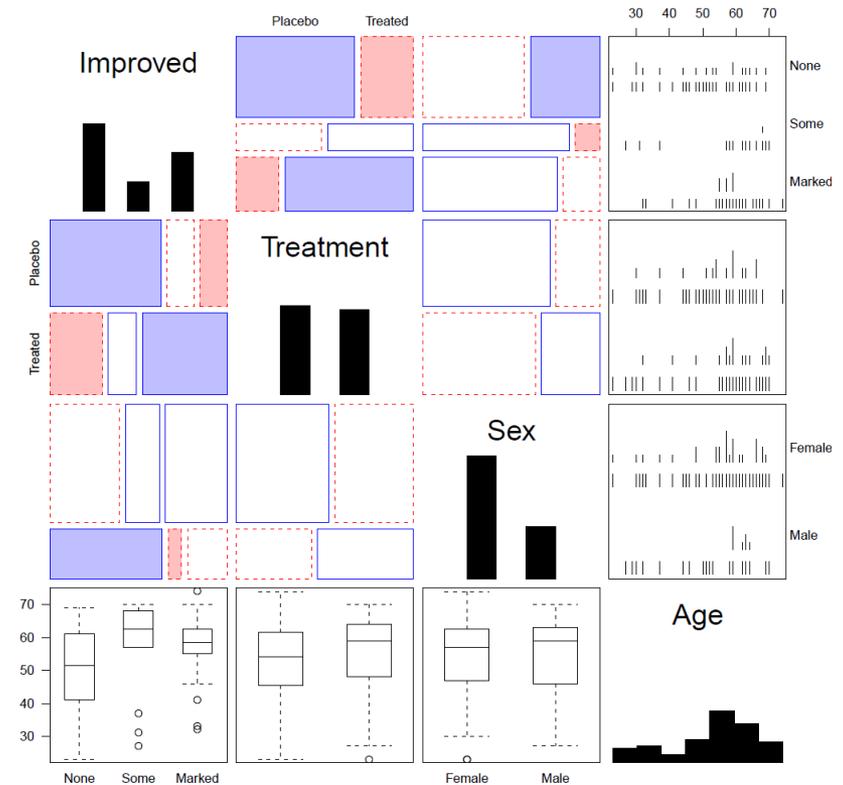
Multiple dimensions of the most influential people in history

From: <http://visualloop.com/blog/83382/pantheon-by-valerio-pellegrini>

# Generalized pairs plots

Generalized pairs plots from the [gpairs](#) package handle both categorical (**C**) and quantitative (**Q**) variables in sensible ways

x	y	plot
Q	Q	scatterplot
C	Q	boxplot
Q	C	barcode
C	C	mosaic

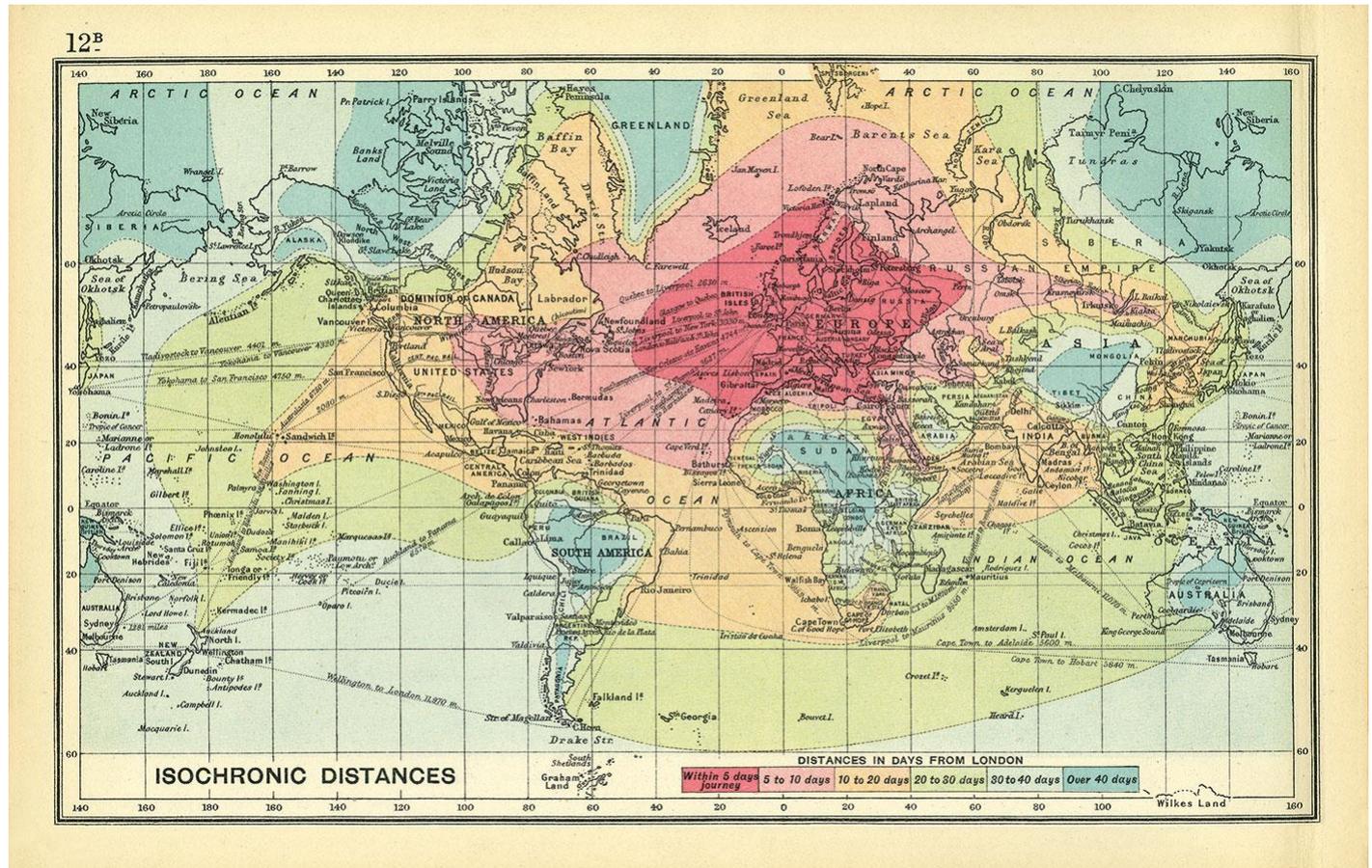


```
library(gpairs)
data(Arthritis)
gpairs(Arthritis[, c(5, 2:5)], ...)
```

# 3D: Iso-contour maps

Early attempts to show 3D data used **contours of equal value** on a map

The data was actually very thin; the contours the result of imaginative smoothing



Francis Galton, *Isochronic chart of travel time*, 1881

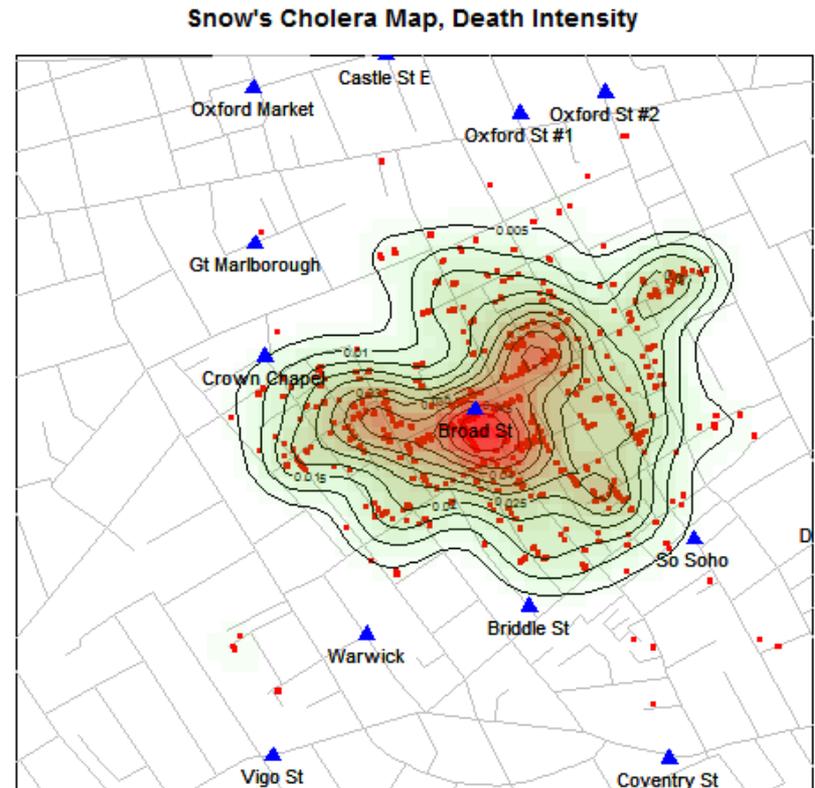
# 3D: Bivariate density estimation

John Snow's map of cholera deaths in London, 1854



Broad St. pump

Modern statistical techniques can compute contours of constant density



Data: HistData package for R



# 3D: population pyramid

Italian demographer Luigi Perozzo (1880) develops the first true 3D diagram showing the population of Sweden over years and age groups as a 3D surface

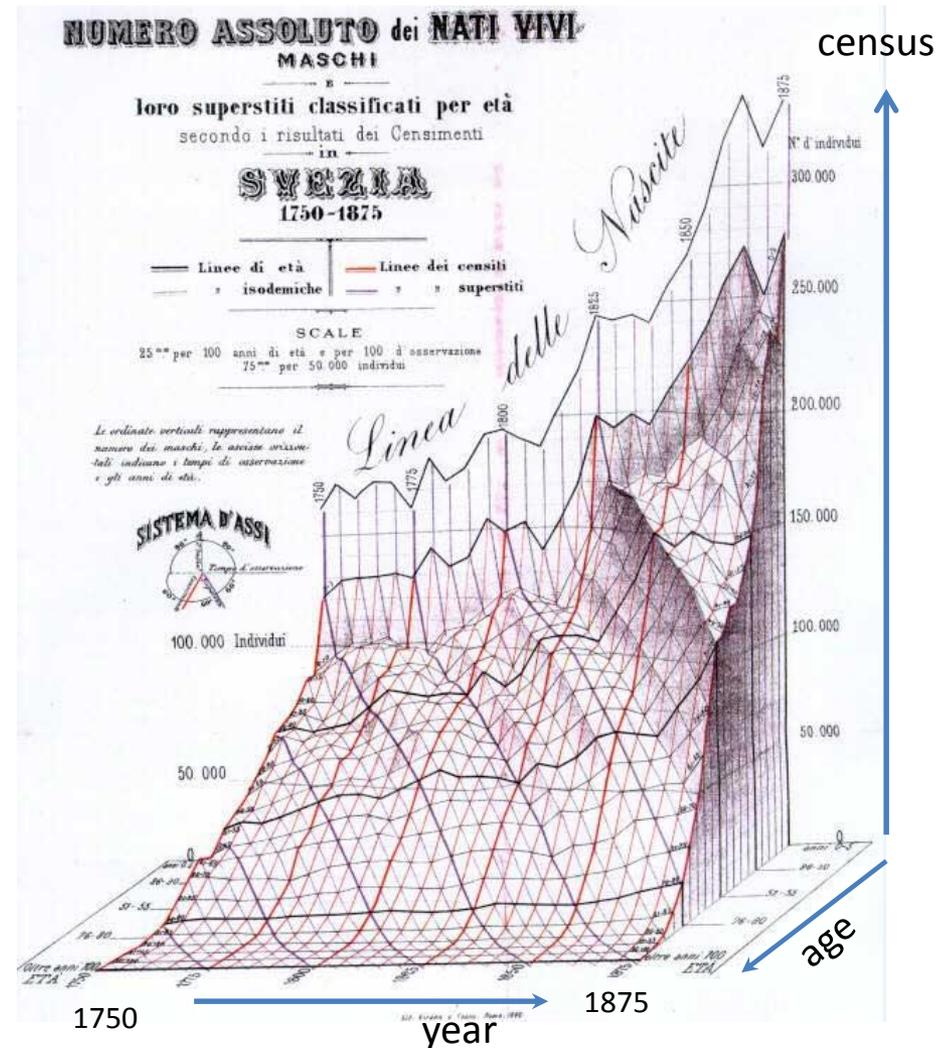
Census counts for a given **year** are shown by the red lines

Survival of a given **age** are shown by black lines

**Cohorts** are shown by lines down & to the right

These 3 variables are primary in demography.

A mystery here: what caused the decline at the upper right?



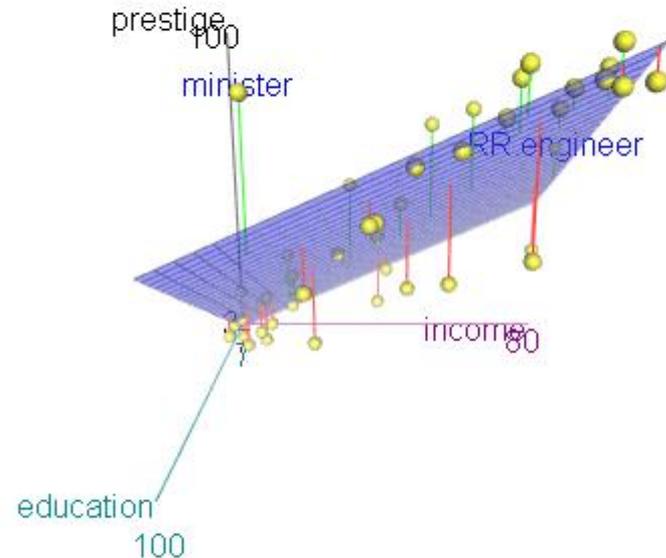
# 3D: scatterplot & regression surface

How does occupational prestige depend on income & education?

This plot shows the data and a fitted multiple regression surface, connecting the points to the regression plane

It is hard to see in a static view, but easier when the plot is rotated dynamically

This plot is produced in R, using the [car](#) and [rgl](#) packages



```
data("Duncan", package="car")
scatter3d(prestige ~ income + education, data=Duncan, id.n=2)
movie3d(spin3d(c(0,1,0), rpm=6), duration=6, movie="duncan-reg3d")
```

# Thematic maps & Spatial visualization

Thematic maps use a wide variety of techniques to display quantitative or qualitative variables on the geographic framework of a map

Once the domain of cartographers, these ideas are now being developed as an area of geospatial visualization and geospatial statistical methods

	Point	Linear	Areal	2½-D	True 3-D
Spacing					
Size					
Perspective Height					None Possible
Orientation				None Recommended	
Shape				None Recommended	
Arrangement				None Recommended	
Lightness					

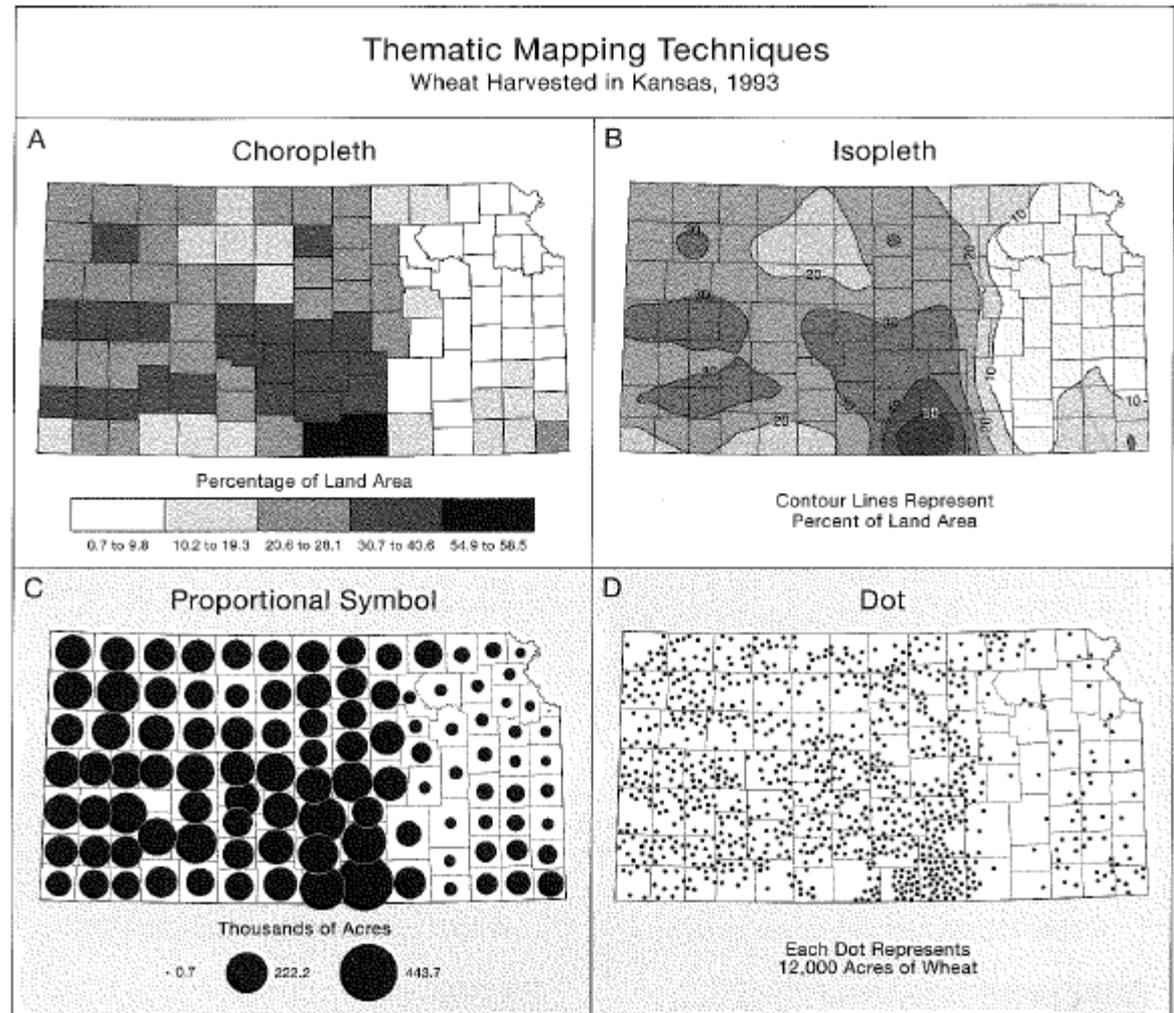
From: Slocum et al., *Thematic cartography and geographical visualization*, Fig 4.3

# Thematic maps: Types

## Basic types of thematic maps

Most are direct mappings of numbers to visual variables

Isopleth maps combine some analysis with display



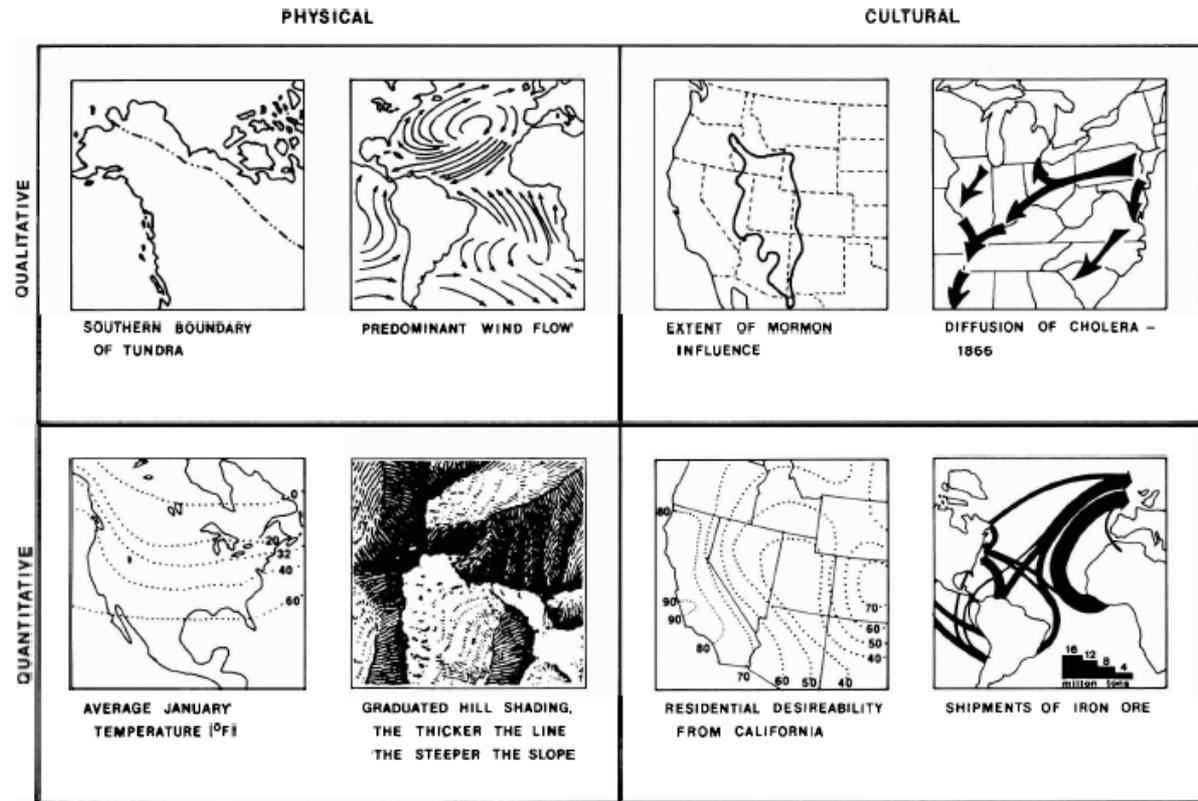
From: Slocum et al., *Thematic cartography and geographical visualization*, Fig 4.9

# Thematic maps: Theory

Alan MacEachern (1979) classifies point, line and area symbols on thematic maps according to whether they depict **quantitative** or **qualitative** phenomena, in the **physical** or **cultural** domain.

This is a coarse classification.

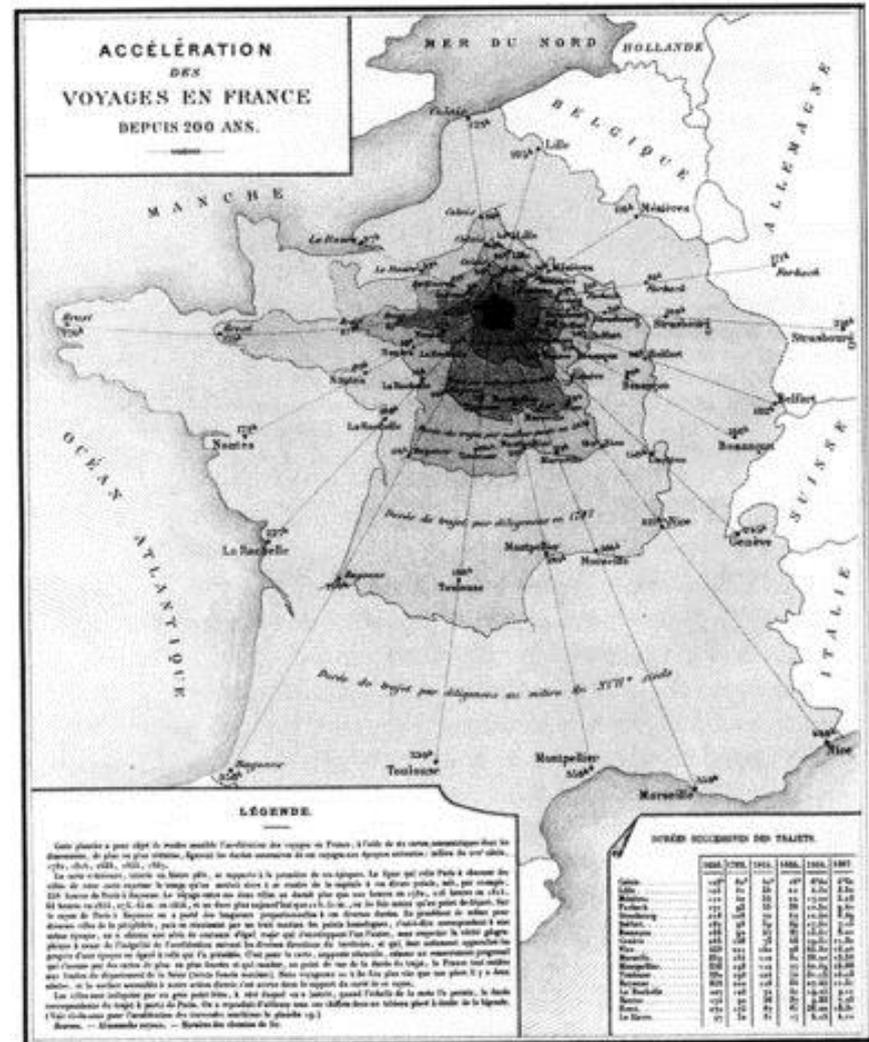
Theories, ideas, and methods have advanced considerably since this time.





# Anamorphic maps

- *Anamorph*: Deforming a spatial size or shape to show a quantitative variable
- Émile Cheysson used this to show the decrease in travel time from Paris to anywhere in France over 200 years



Album de Statistique Graphique, 1888, plate 8



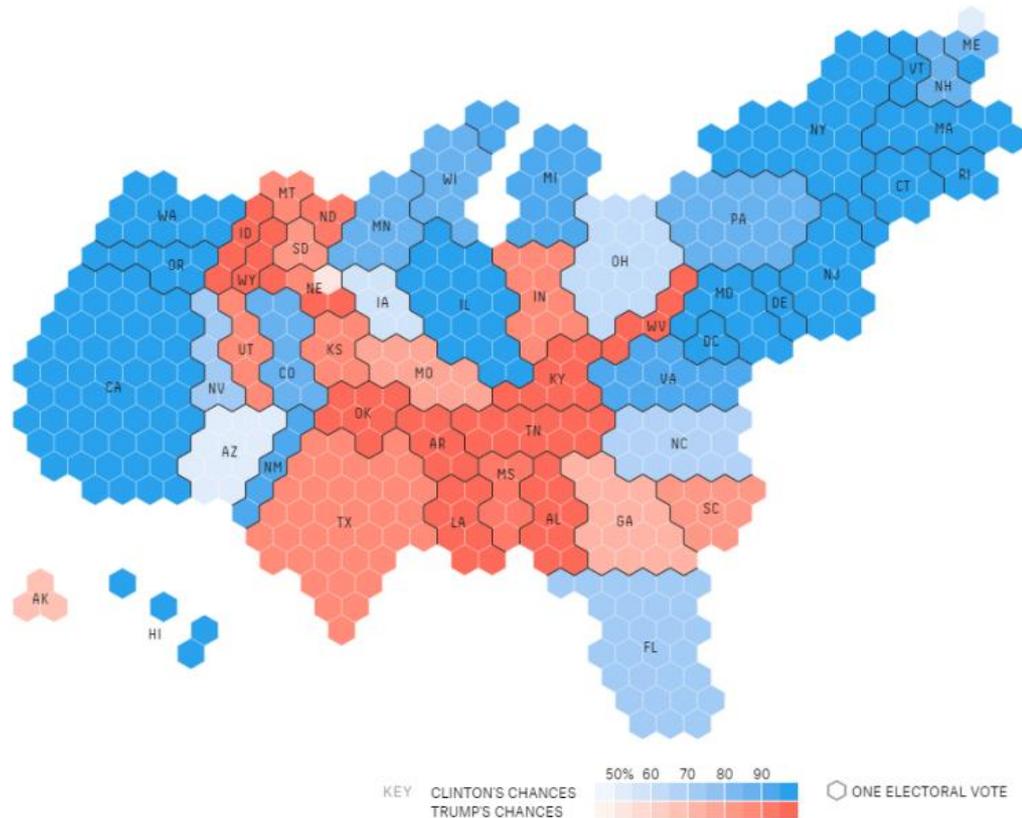
# Cartogram (tilegrams)

A **tilegram** uses hexagonal tiles to make area proportional to a given variable

Here, the size of each state is made  $\sim$  number of **electoral college votes**

Now, it is easy to see the impact of states

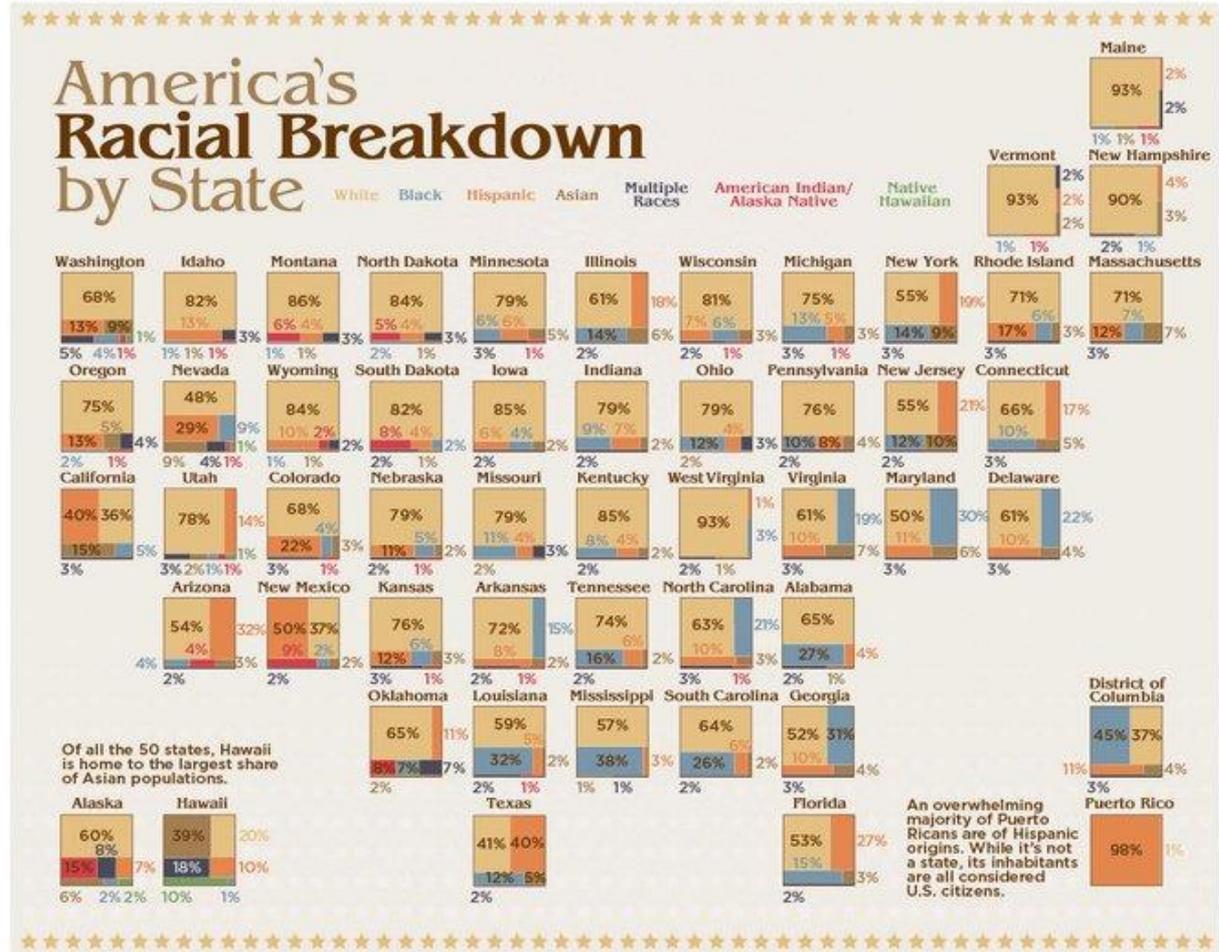
Take-away: **Area doesn't vote; People do!**



fivethirtyeight.com election predictions, Oct. 13, 2017

# Mosaic cartograms

US map provides a spatial framework for showing the distribution of categorical data



Sources: Kaiser Family Foundation, U.S. Census Bureau



COLLABORATORS RESEARCH + WRITING Anupa Iman Ghosh, Raul Amoros | DESIGN Zack Aboutazim | ART DIRECTION Melissa Haavisto

# Worldmapper: The world in cartograms

How to visualize social, economic, disease, ... data for geographic units?

worldmapper.com : **cartograms: area ~ variable of interest** (700+ maps)



Worldmapper is a collection of world maps, where territories are re-sized on each map according to the subject of interest. There are 366 maps, also available as PDF posters. Use the menu above or click on a thumbnail image below to view a map.

## Reference maps ...



Total Population



Land Area



Labelled Map



Appendix A (Areas included)

## Newest maps ...



Often Preventable Deaths



Morphing animation



Deaths from Non-Communicable Illnesses

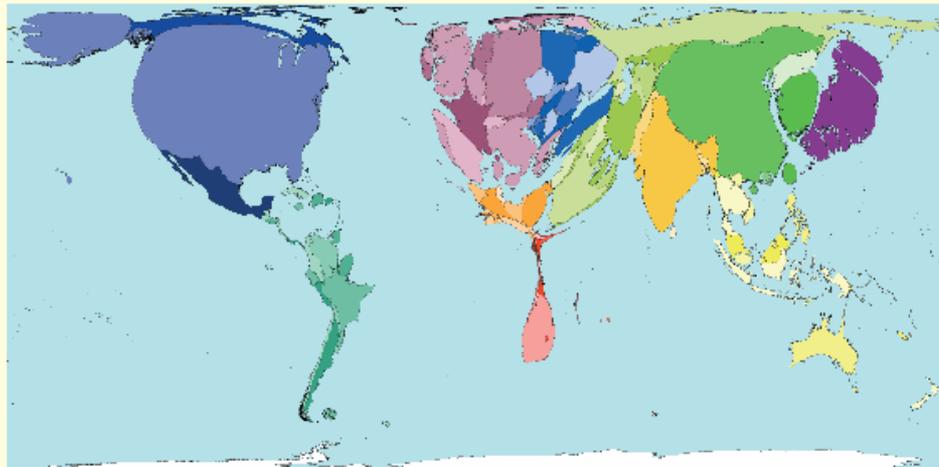


All Injury Deaths

# Worldmapper: Carbon emissions

These pages are well-designed according to data vis. Ideas: high impact graph + interpretive details & explanation

## Carbon Emissions 2000



Carbon dioxide causes roughly 60% of the 'enhanced greenhouse effect' or global warming resulting from certain gases emitted by human activities. In 2000 there were almost 23 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide emitted worldwide. Of this, 28% came from North American territories; 0.09% came from Central African territories.

Emissions of carbon dioxide vary hugely between places, due to differences in lifestyle and ways of producing energy. Whilst people living in 66 territories emitted less than 1 tonne per person in 2000; more than 10 tonnes per person were emitted by people living in the highest polluting 21 territories that year.

Territory size shows the proportion of carbon dioxide emissions in 2000 that were directly from there.



Land area

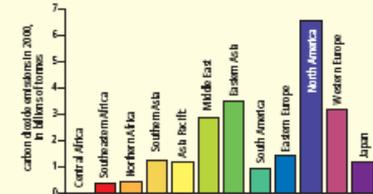
Technical notes  
 • Data are from the United Nations Development Programme's 2004 Human Development Report.  
 • \*The denominator used is population in 2000.  
 • See website for further information.

### MOST AND LEAST CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS IN 2000

Rank	Territory	Value	Rank	Territory	Value
1	Qatar	64	191	Democratic Republic Congo	0.095
2	Bahrain	27	192	United Republic of Tanzania	0.094
3	Brunei Darussalam	21	193	Malawi	0.094
4	Kuwait	21	194	Uganda	0.094
5	Trinidad & Tobago	20	195	Comoros	0.094
6	Luxembourg	19	196	Niger	0.094
7	United States	19	197	Burundi	0.048
8	United Arab Emirates	18	198	Cambodia	0.048
9	Australia	18	199	Chad	0.047
10	Saudi Arabia	17	200	Afghanistan	0.040

tonnes of carbon dioxide emitted in 2000 per person living in that territory\*

### CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS IN 2000



*"If the world does not learn now to show respect to nature, what kind of future will the new generations have?"*

Rigoberta Menchú Tum, 1992

# Worldmapper: Cholera deaths

Deaths from cholera in 2004. Territory size ~ proportion of worldwide deaths

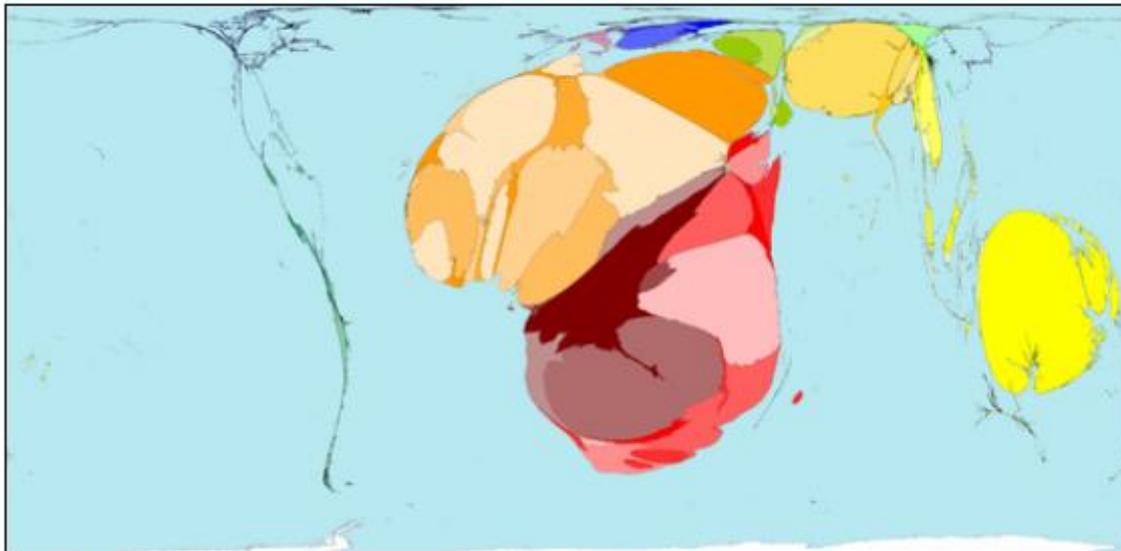
< Previous Map

Cholera Deaths

Map No. 232

Open PDF poster

Next Map >



*"The cholera outbreak has continued .. water provided by the tankers is not enough and they try to boost their supply from the wells, which are not covered. The rain washes faeces and other pollutants into the wells..." Pierre Kahozi, 2004*

Cholera deaths result from severe dehydration caused by diarrhoea. This is treatable: in 2004 the number of cholera deaths was only 2.5% of the number of cholera cases that year. Distributions of cholera cases and deaths differ due to differing availability of treatments.

In 1962, in Papua New Guinea, 36% of cholera cases, which was 464 people, died. In 2004, in the Central African Republic, 15% of cholera cases, which was 48 people, died.

In contrast, there were 73 territories where nobody died from cholera, because of good sanitation, clean water and available treatment. These territories have no area on this map.

**Territory size shows the proportion of worldwide deaths from cholera that occurred there in 2004 or most recent year available.**

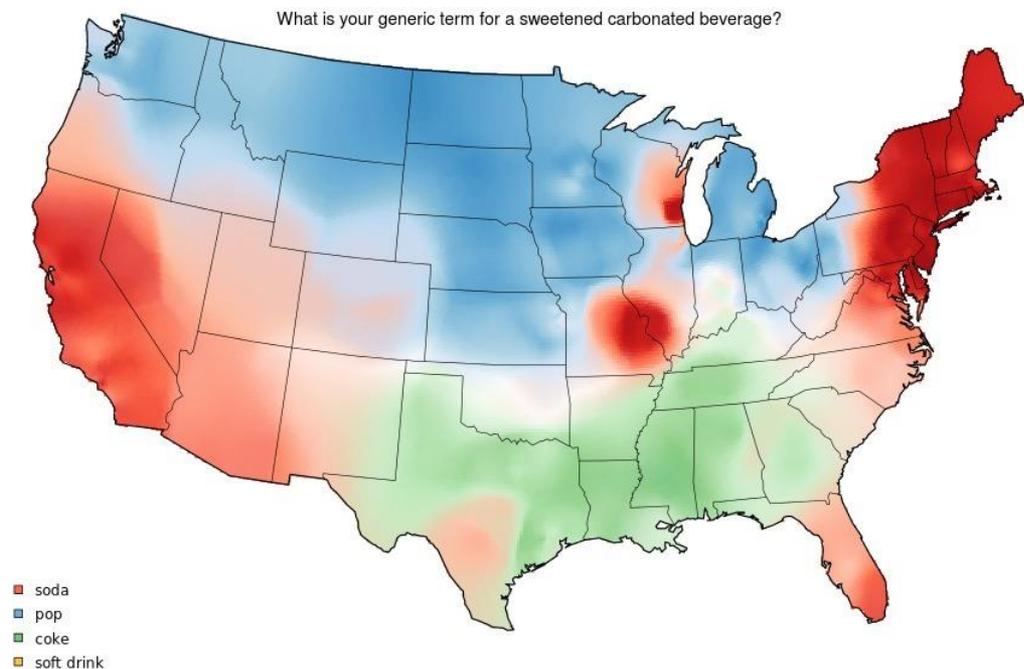
# Spatial visualization: Analysis + maps

Linguistics: Food dialect maps– visualizing how people speak

soda vs. pop?

In the *Cambridge Online Survey of World Englishes*, Bert Vaux and Marius L. Jøhndal surveyed 11,500 people to study the ways people use English words.

NC State Univ. student Joshua Katz turned the US data into shaded **kernel density maps**.



Take the survey: [http://www.tekstlab.uio.no/cambridge\\_survey](http://www.tekstlab.uio.no/cambridge_survey)

Programming in R: <http://blog.revolutionanalytics.com/2013/06/r-and-language.html>

# Spatial visualization: Analysis + maps

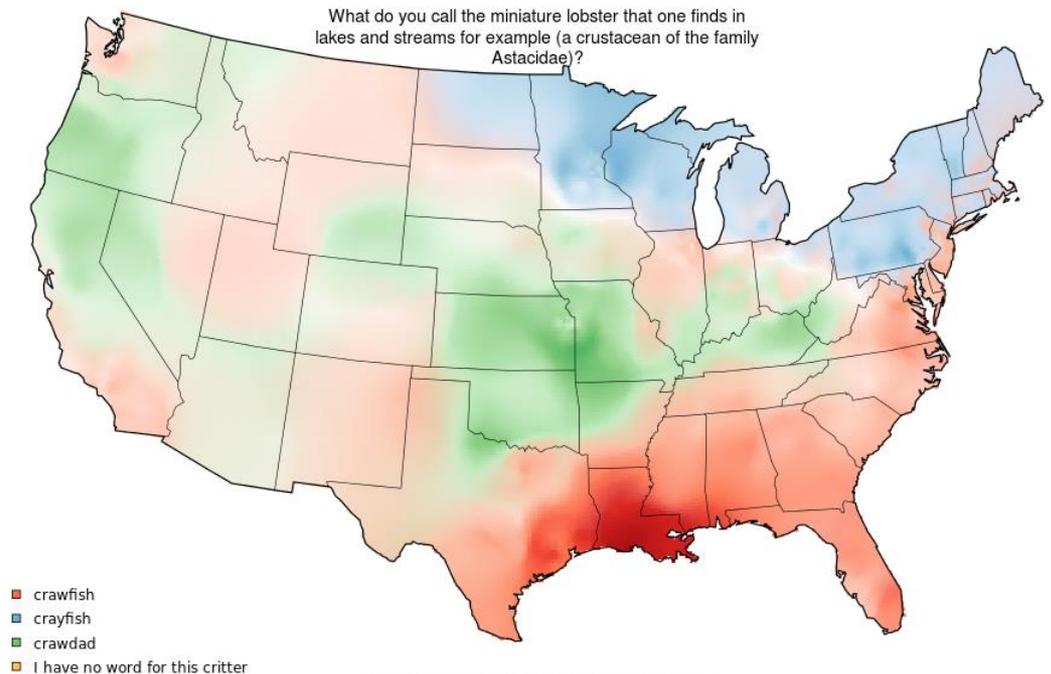
Linguistics: Food dialect maps– visualizing how people speak

crawfish, crayfish, crawdad?

A  $k$ -nearest neighbor **kernel density estimate** over  $(x,y)$  locations gives a smoothed & interpretable display of the choice probabilities.

Regional differences are quite apparent.

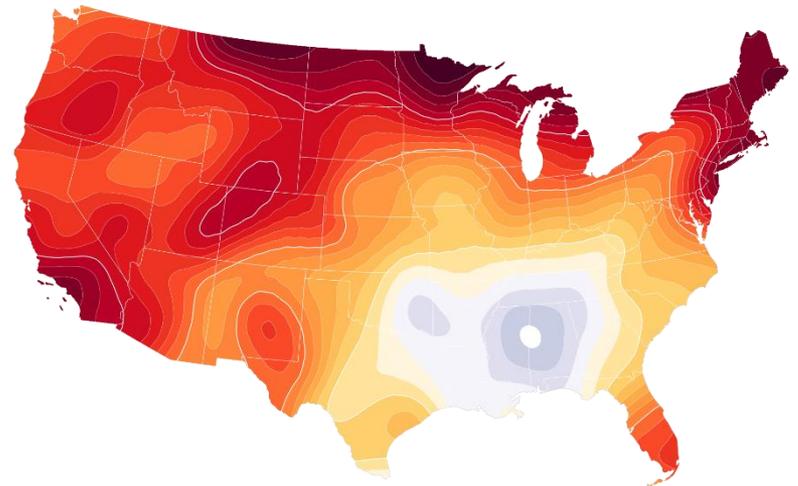
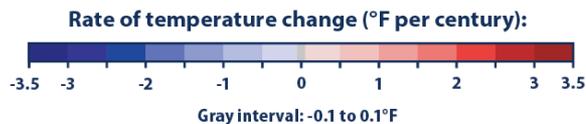
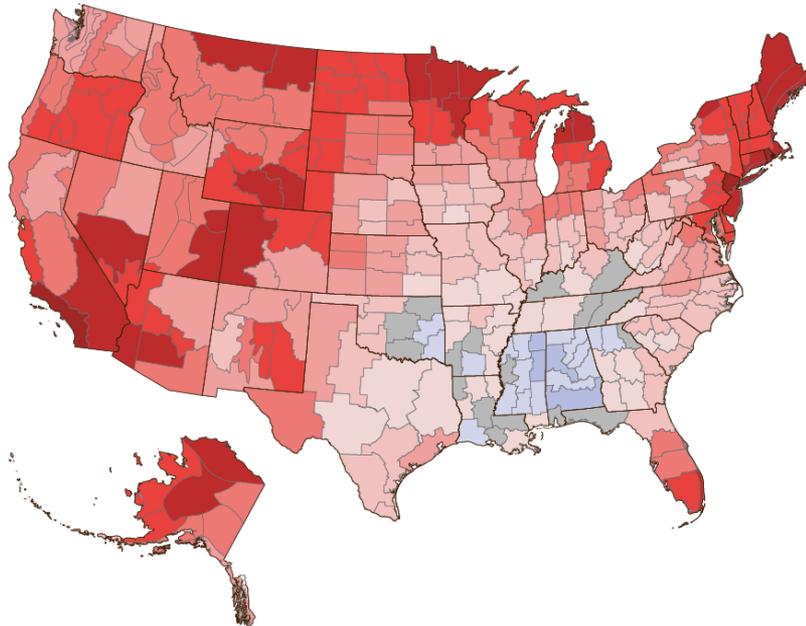
The use of **color** combines discrete categories with intensity to give a meaningful display



# Contour maps

Contour maps ignore region boundaries and estimate constant contours of a phenomenon over geographical space. This is a form of **geo-smoothing**.

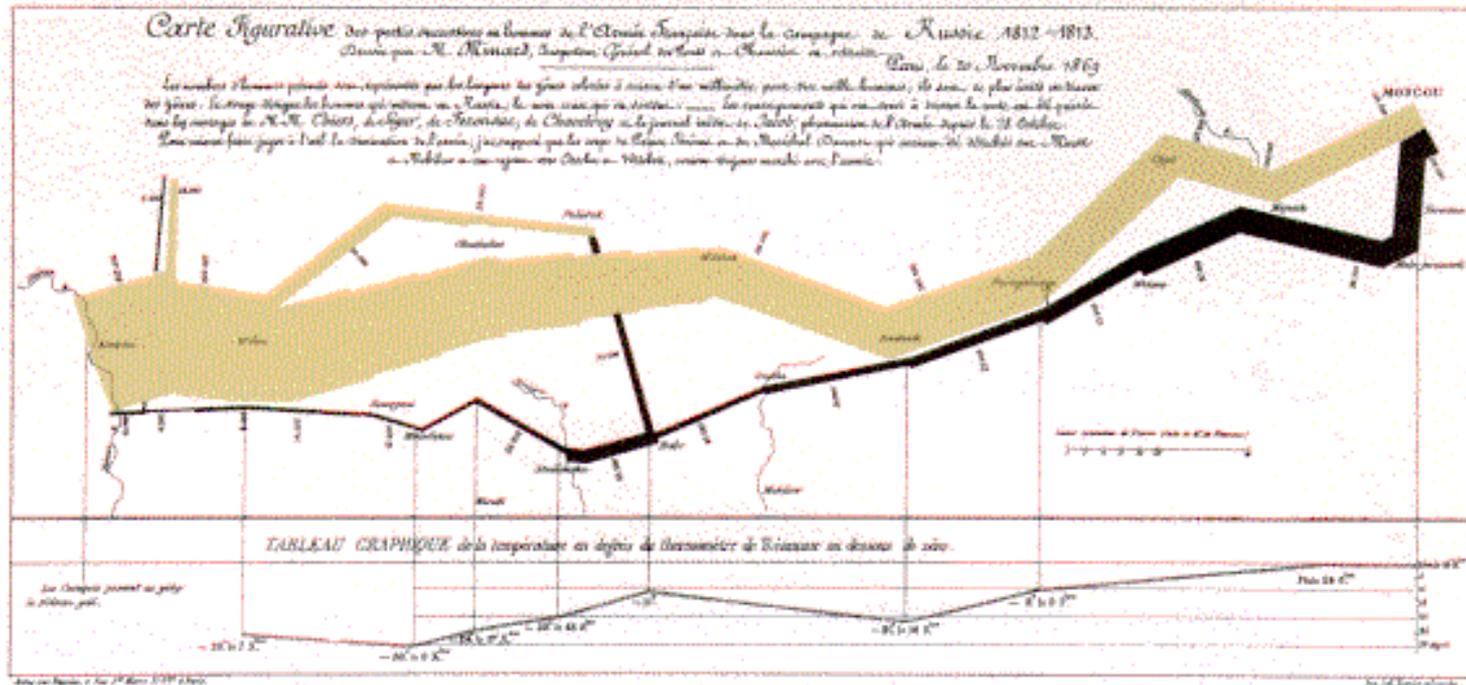
Rate of Temperature Change in the United States, 1901–2015



From: <https://medium.com/two-n/an-alternative-to-choropleth-contour-density-maps-in-d3-js-93e1fdbdc4e>

# Flow maps

Flow maps show **movement** or **change** in a geographic framework  
The master work is this image by Charles-Joseph Minard (1869)



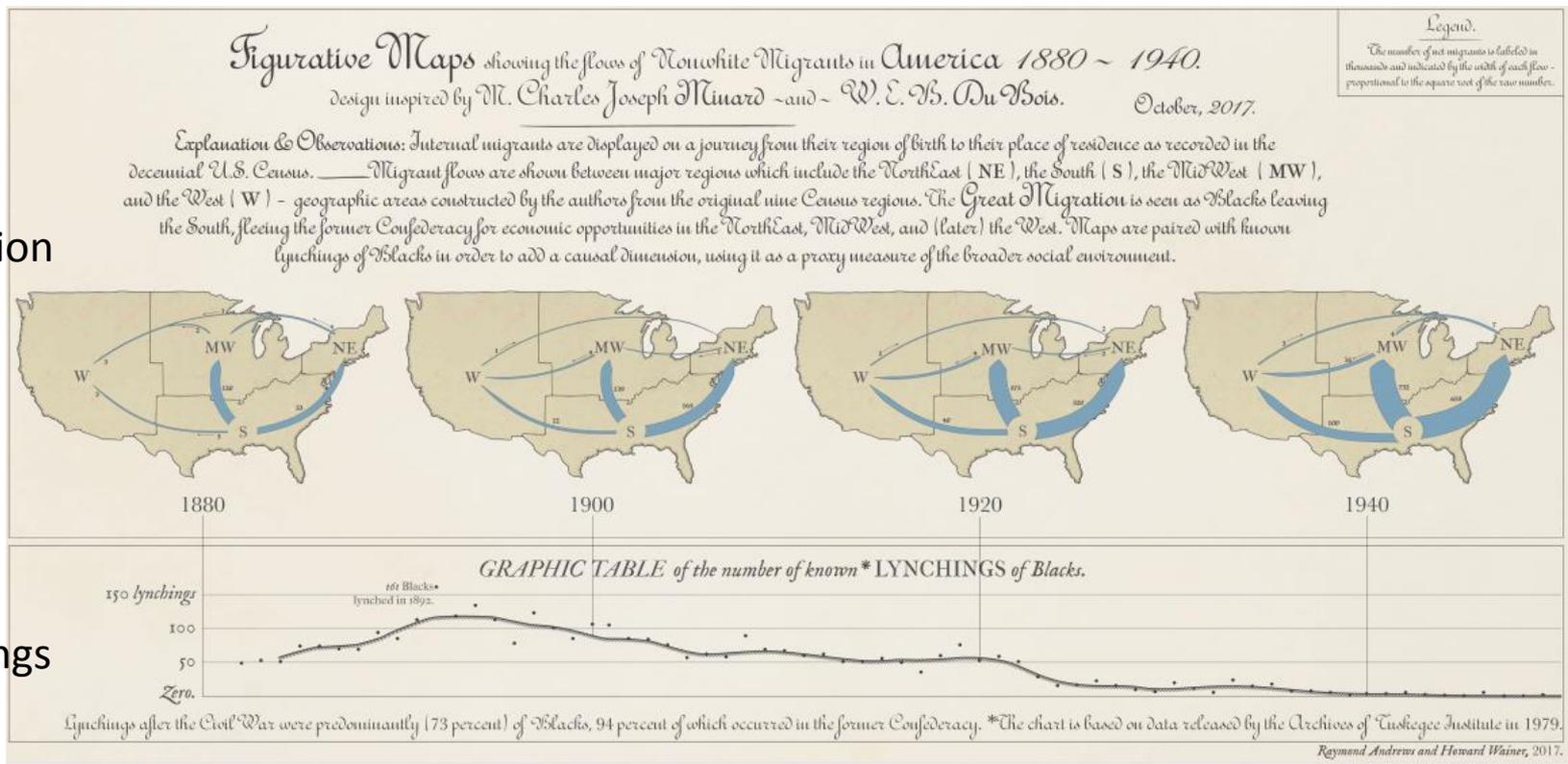
- Murey (1878): “defies the pen of the historian in its brutal eloquence”
- Tufte (1983): “the best statistical graphic ever produced”



# The Great Migration

In a graphic tribute to C.-J. Minard and W. E. B. Du Bois, Raymond Andrews & Howard Wainer tell the story of the migration of blacks from the southern US after freedom from slavery.

Migration



Lynchings

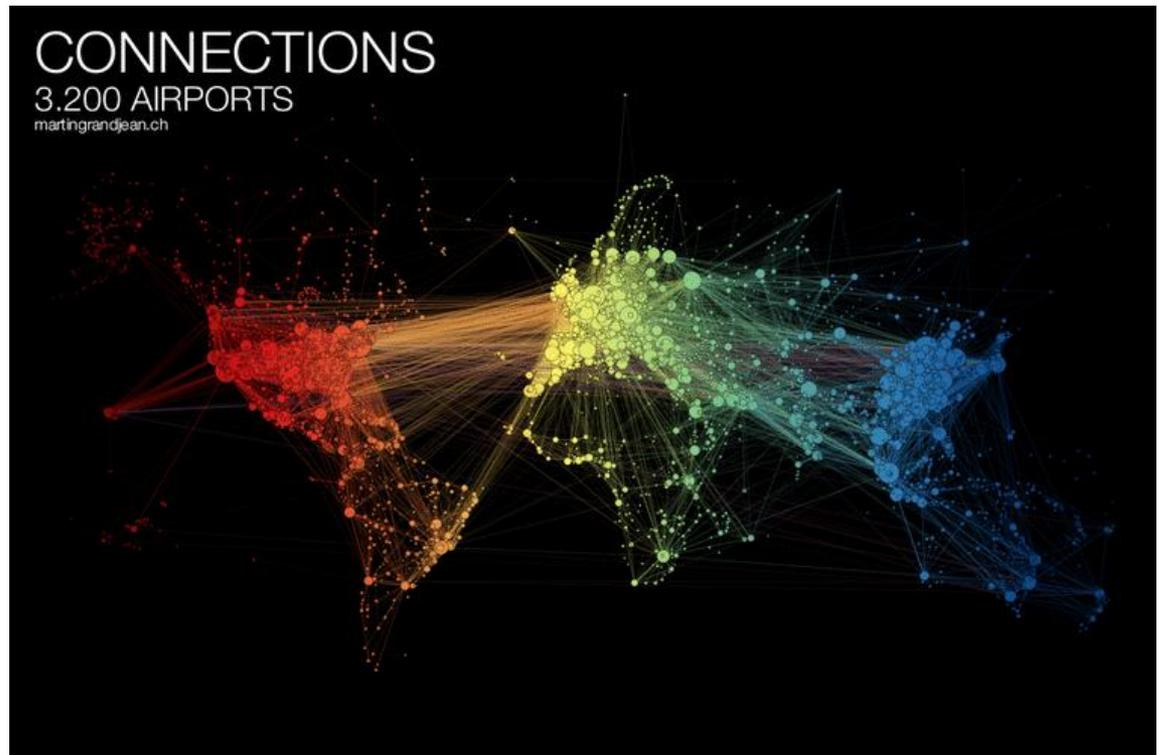
Andrews, R. J. & Wainer, H. The Great Migration: A Graphics Novel Featuring the Contributions of W. E. B. Du Bois and C. J. Minard. *Significance*, 2017, 14, 14-19. See also: <http://infowetrust.com/picturing-the-great-migration/> for the story of this graphic

# Network visualization

Once the domain of mathematicians & computer scientists, graph theory and network visualization turn out to have surprising & interesting applications.

Animated demo by Martin Granjean showing transport of passengers from/to world airports.

It illustrates the difference between geography & **force-directed layout** to focus on volume & connections



From: <http://www.martingrandjean.ch/connected-world-air-traffic-network/>

See more: <https://flowingdata.com/2016/05/31/air-transportation-network/>

# Network visualization: Transport maps

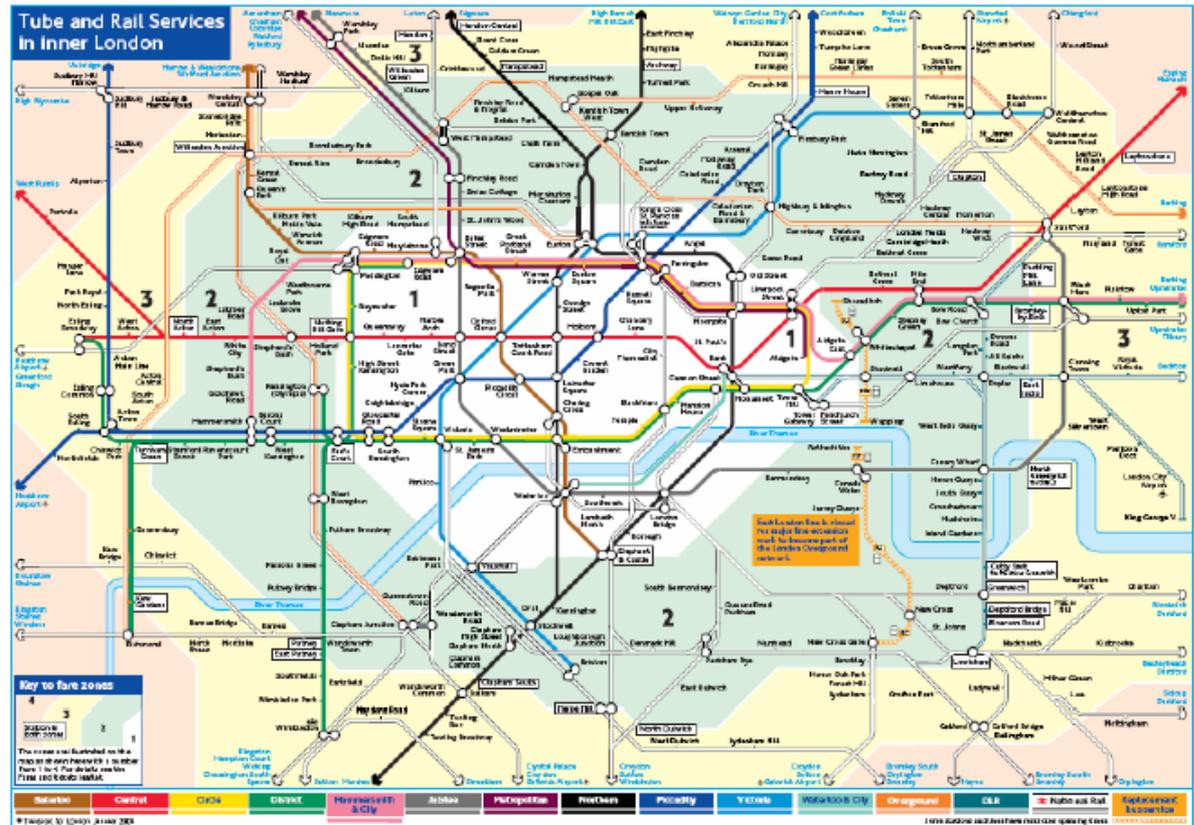
How do I get from Chigwell to Charing Cross?

How much will it cost?

This route map shows the connections and fare zones

The first one was designed by Henry Beck in 1931.

The modern version is zoomable and available on your phone.



See: <https://tfl.gov.uk/maps/track>

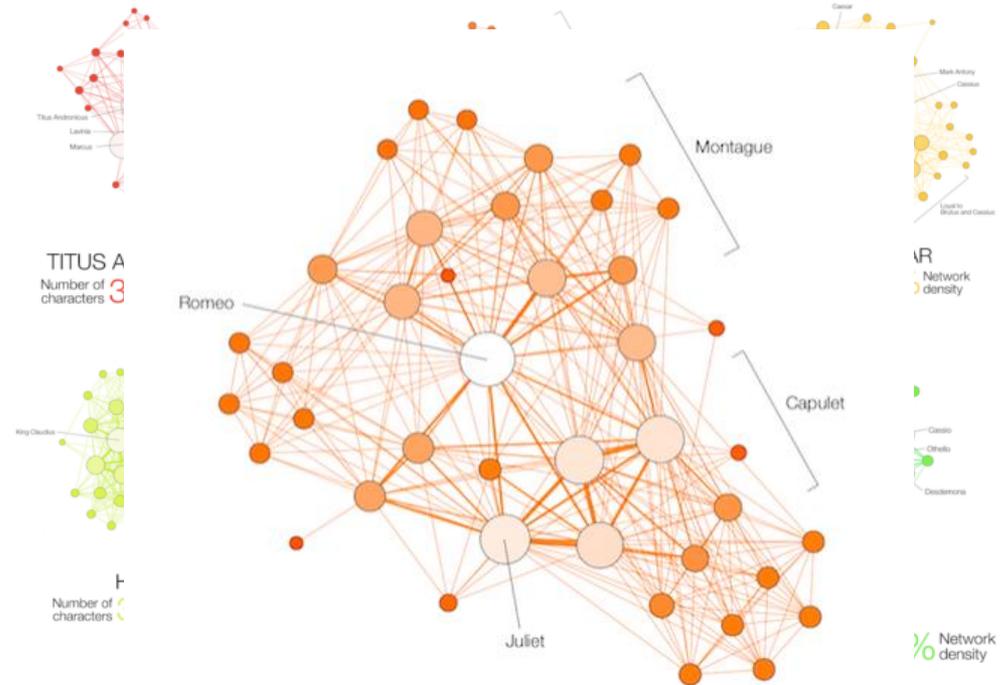
# Network visualization: Shakespeare tragedies

## A new form of literary criticism?

Martin Grandjean looked at the structure of Shakespeare tragedies through character interactions.

Each circle (node) represents a character, and an edge represents two characters who appeared in the same scene.

The structural characteristics of the graphs have meaningful interpretations.



ROMEO AND JULIET  
Number of characters 41 | 37% Network density

From: <https://flowingdata.com/2015/12/30/shakespeare-tragedies-as-network-graphs/>

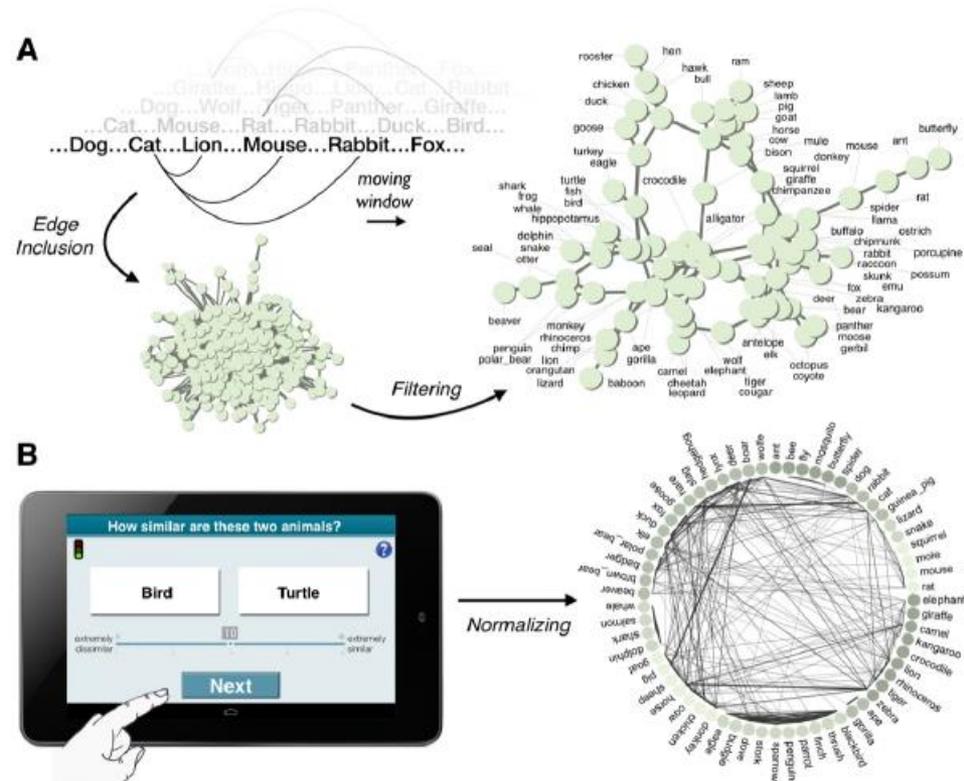
# Semantic memory: Cognitive structure

Various tasks can be used to assess the relations among words/concepts in our semantic memory

The data can be used to calculate measures of **similarity**, and be shown in network or other diagrams

**Verbal fluency task:** Say/write all the names of [animals, countries, ...] you can in 1 minute.

**Similarity ratings:** For each pair, indicate how similar they are



From: Wulff et al. (2018), Structural differences in the semantic networks of younger and older adults

# Semantic memory: Cognitive structure

Do younger and older adults differ on measures calculated from their network diagrams?

$\langle k \rangle$  : Average “degree” # of connections

C : average local clustering

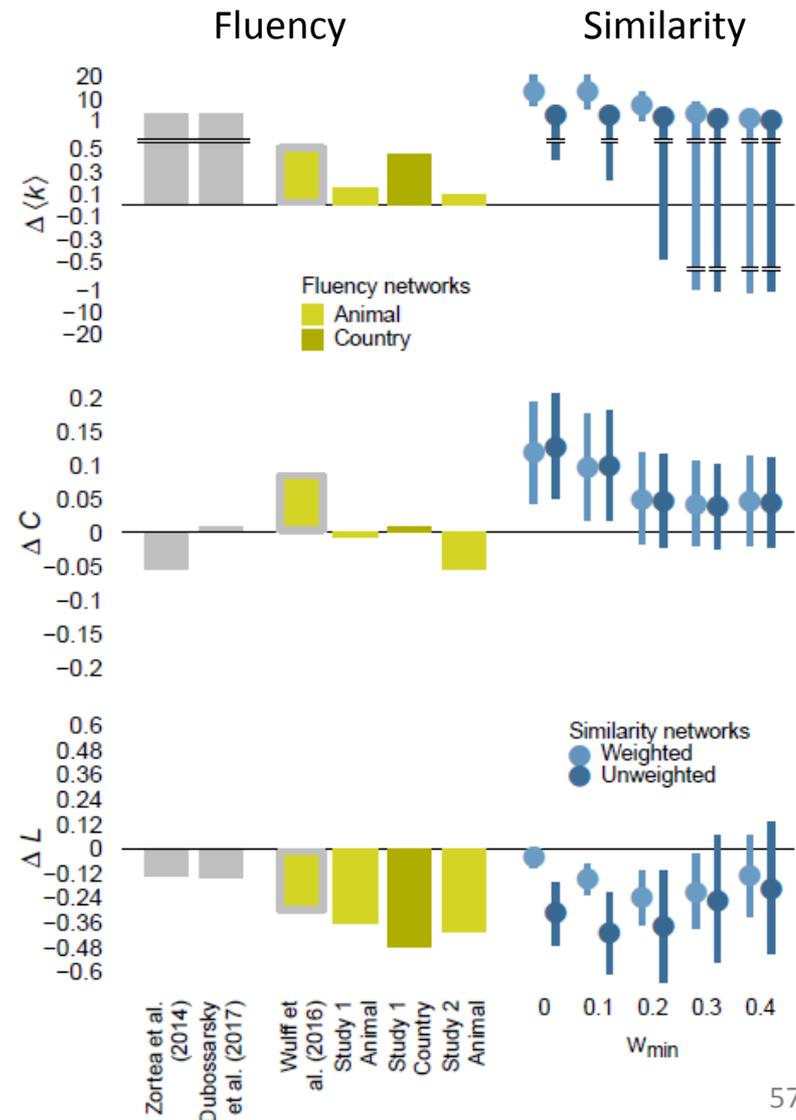
L : average path length in network

$\Delta()$  : young – old difference

IMHO, this graph tries to do too much.

The fluency data is most important to their argument.

$\Delta L$  &  $\Delta \langle k \rangle$  show consistent differences between young & old





# WikiLeaks Iraq war logs

Johnathan Stray & Julian Burgess analyzed > 11,000 documents for SIGACT (“significant action”) reports from the 2006 Iraqi civil war made available by WikiLeaks.

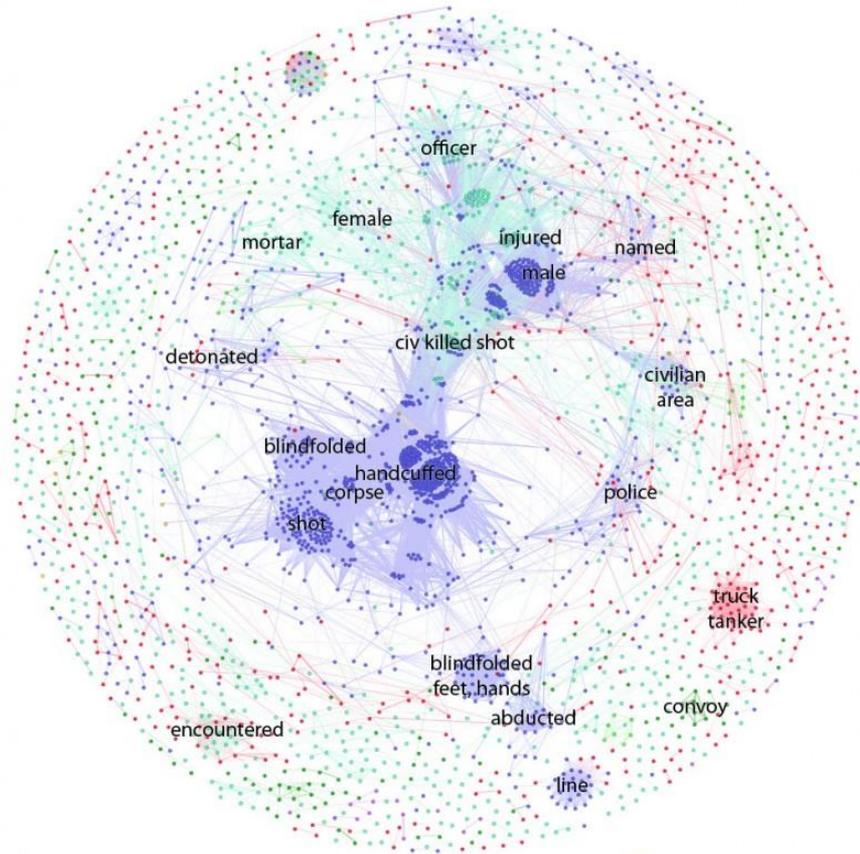
Each report is a dot. Each dot is labelled by the three most “characteristic” words in that report.

Documents that are “similar” have edges drawn between them, width ~ similarity

The graph-drawing algorithm placed similar nodes together



WikiLeaks Iraq SIGACTS (redacted) - Dec 2006



3,051 nodes (26.3% of 11,616 documents)  
106,660 edges (above 0.6 cosine similarity)  
17,608 terms

■ Criminal Event	(44.61%)
■ Enemy Action	(29.47%)
■ Explosive Hazard	(16.72%)
■ Friendly Action	(6.06%)
■ Threat Report	(1.18%)
■ Other	(1.11%)
■ Non-Combat Event	(0.52%)
■ null	(0.29%)
■ Suspicious Incident	(0.03%)

From: <http://jonathanstray.com/a-full-text-visualization-of-the-iraq-war-logs>

# WikiLeaks Iraq war logs

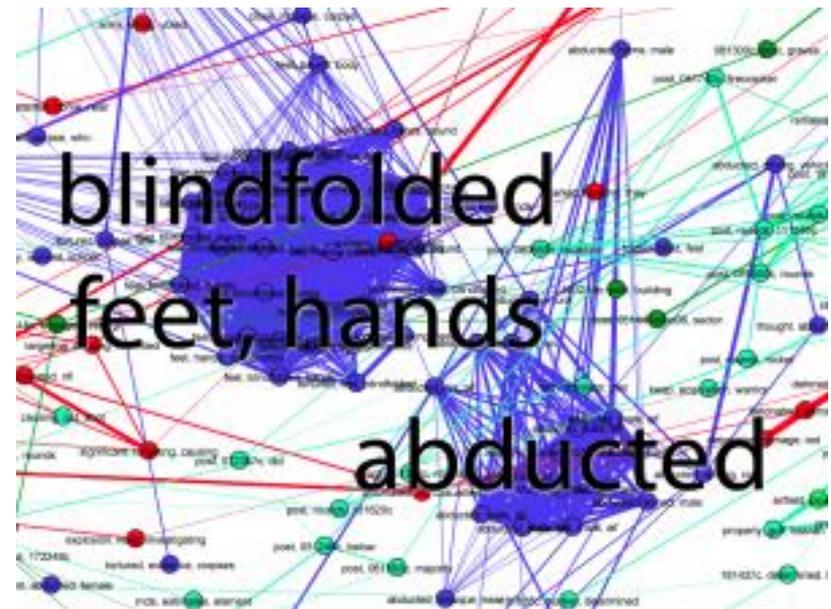
Certain themes became clear, and could be studied in rich detail  
The underlying methods use “term frequency–inverse document frequency”  
measures of **text-mining**.

Murder cluster. All contain the word  
“corpse”



<http://jonathanstray.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/Murders.png>

Torture-abduction cluster



<http://jonathanstray.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/Torture-abduction.png>

# Twitter network of R users

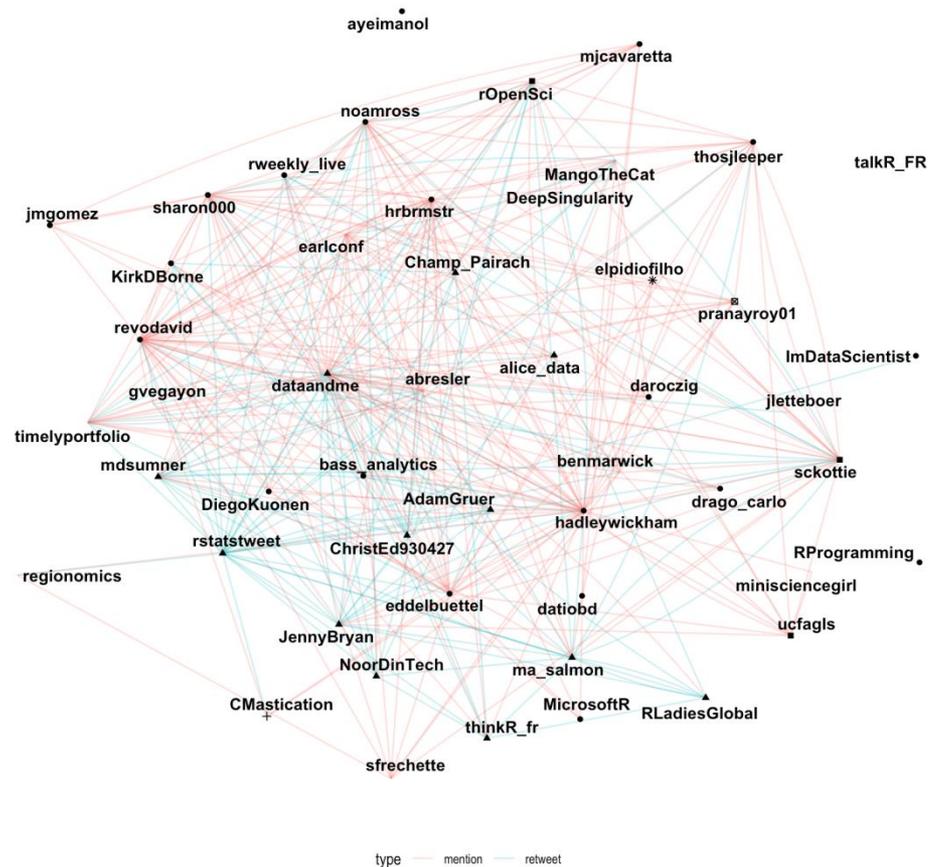
Perry Stephenson explores the connections among the top 50 R users on Twitter

The rtweet package provides access to Twitter info

```
library(rtweet)
followers <-
get_followers("datavisFriendly"))
```

## R Twitter Activity Network

Top 50 users (by centrality) - July 2018



From: <https://perrystephenson.me/2018/09/29/the-r-twitter-network/>

# Twitter circles

Who do I most often interact with?

Three rings to show my twitter world

One ring to rule them all:  
@datavisFriendly

Other rings: #datavis,  
#maps, #rstats, #psy6135



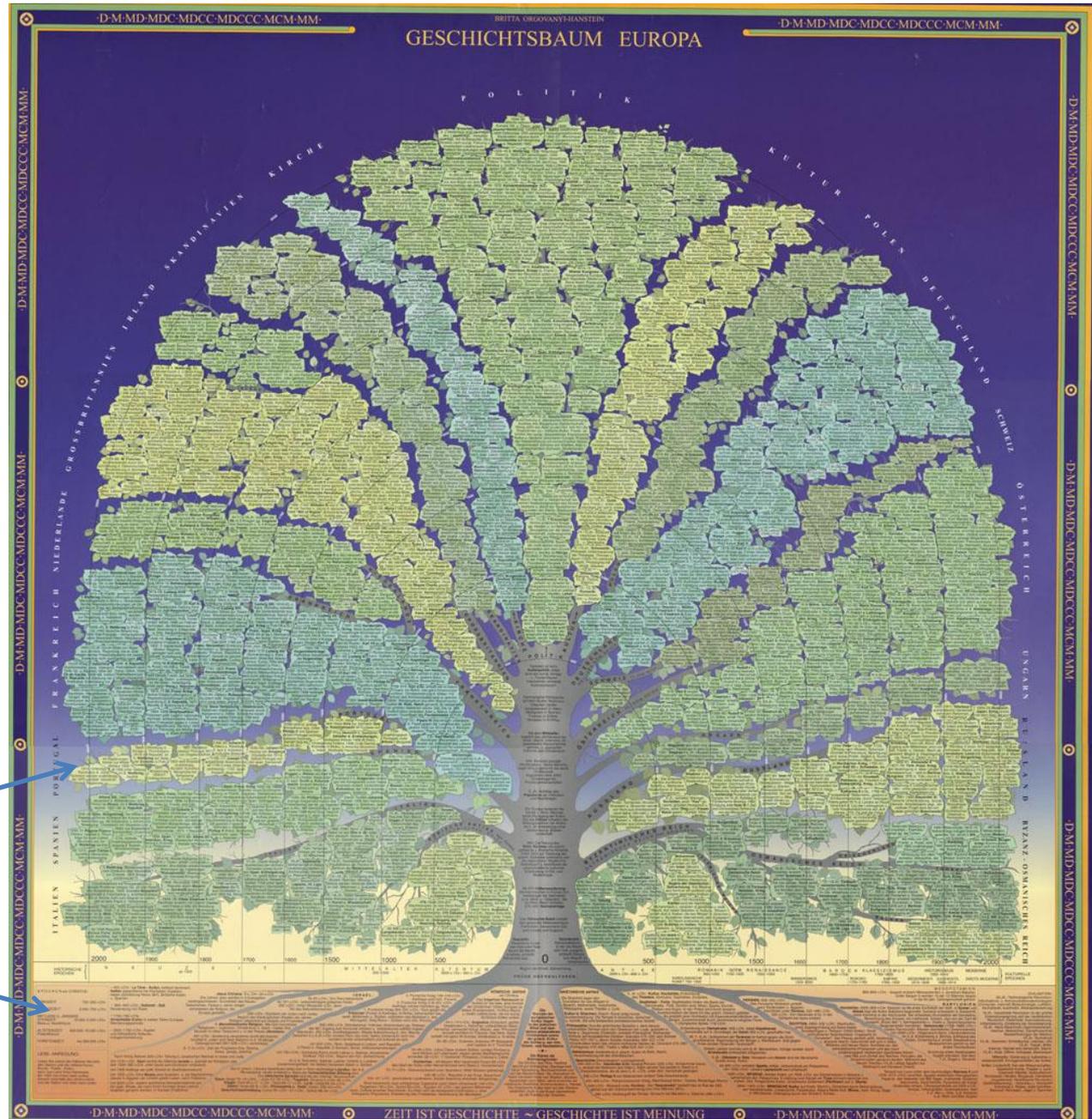




# History as a Tree:

## *Geschichtesbaum Europa (2003)*

- The entire history of Europe in one diagram
- space-filling design: resolution  $\sim$  time<sup>2</sup>
- natural metaphors for roots, branches





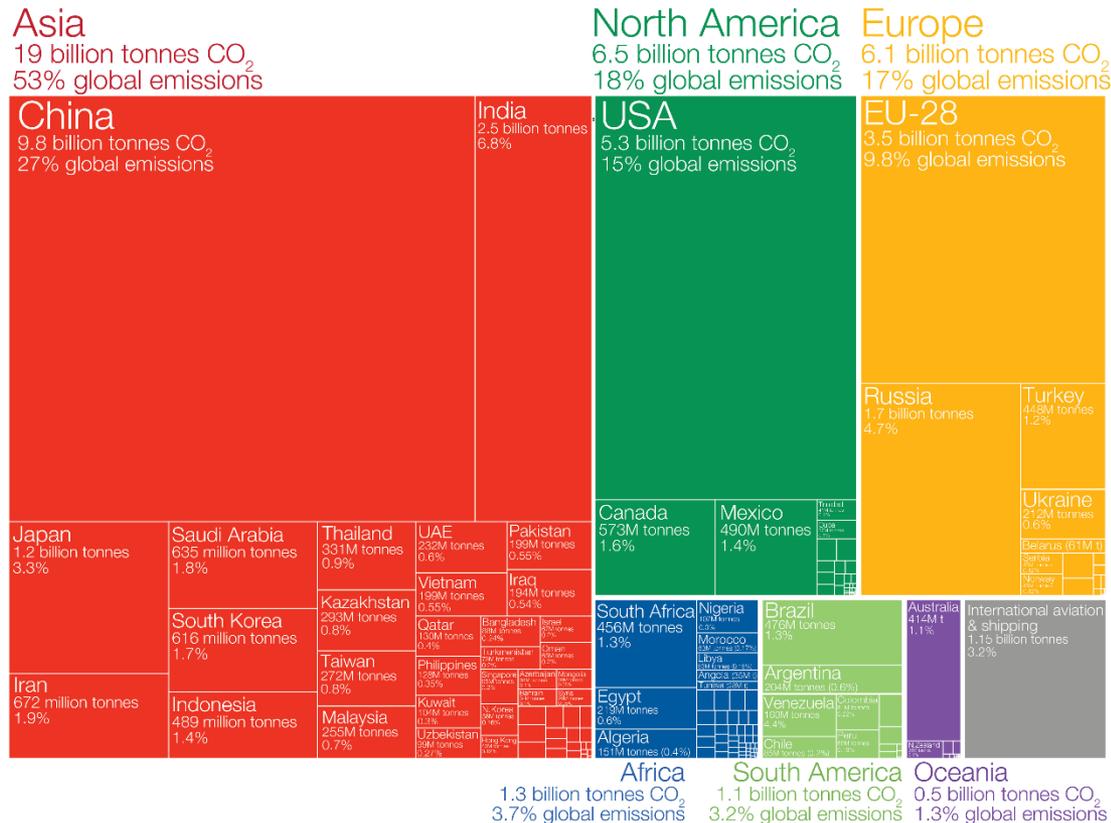
# Treemaps

Treemaps display hierarchical data as a set of nested rectangles.  
Each node (leaf) has an area  $\sim$  size (CO<sub>2</sub>)

## Who emits the most CO<sub>2</sub>?

Global carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions were 36.2 billion tonnes in 2017.

Our World  
in Data



The construction makes efficient use of space

Nesting shows relative size at multiple levels







# Animation & Interactive Graphics

Origins: Visualizing motion

Animated graphics

Dynamically updated  
graphics

Linking views

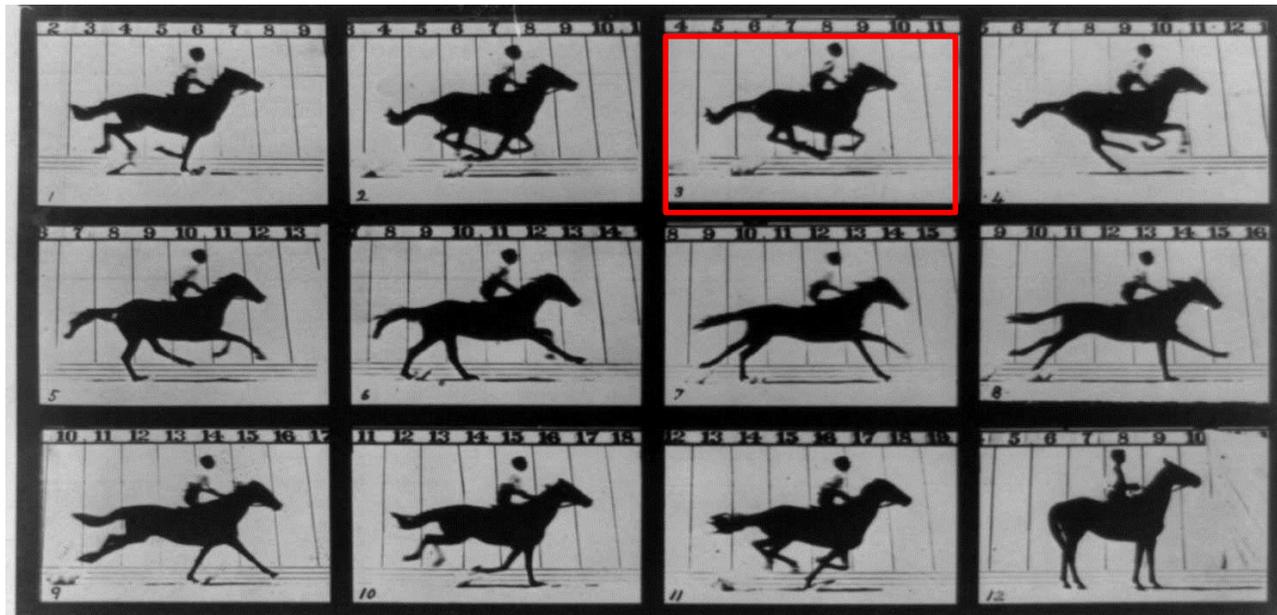
Interactive application  
development frameworks

# A wager about a horse in motion

In the late 1800s, a popular quasi-scientific question was: Does a horse, in a trot, cantor or gallop ever have all four feet off the ground?

This came to be called the **Hypothesis of Unsupported Transit**

Eadweard Muybridge solved the problem by automating multiple photographs



Copyright, 1878, by MUYBRIDGE.

MORSE'S Gallery, 417 Montgomery St., San Francisco

## THE HORSE IN MOTION.

Illustrated by  
MUYBRIDGE.

AUTOMATIC ELECTRO-PHOTOGRAPH

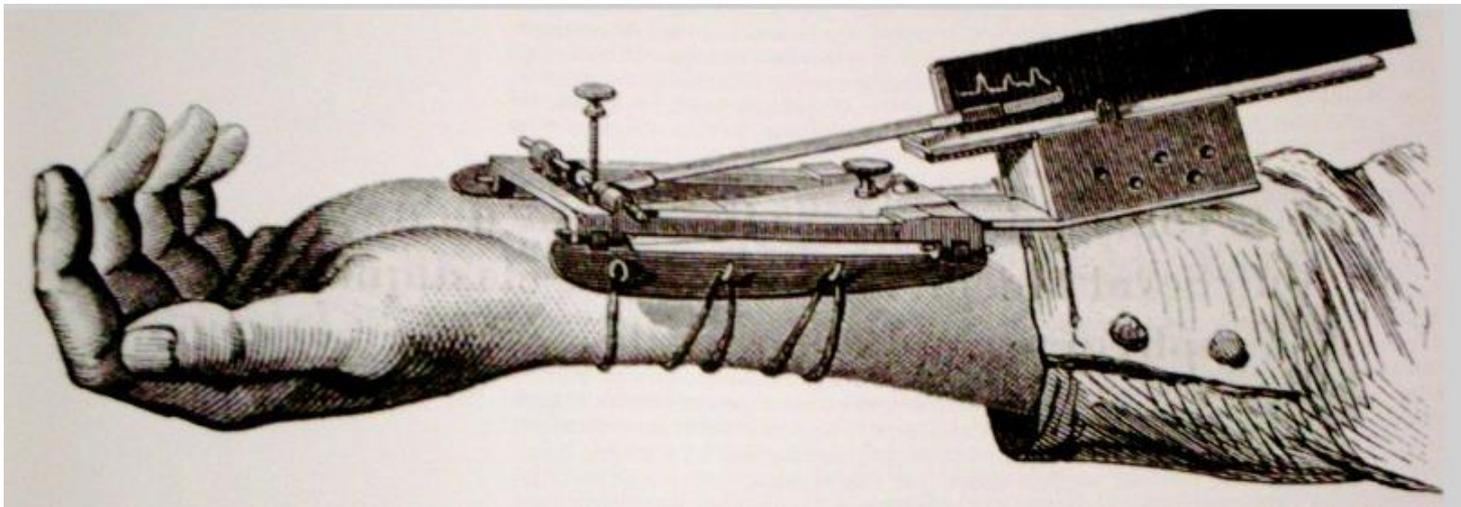
"SALLIE GARDNER," owned by LELAND STANFORD; ridden by G. DOMM, running at a 1.40 gait over the Palo Alto track, 19th June, 1878.

The negatives of these photographs were made at intervals of twenty-seven inches of distance, and about the twenty-fifth part of a second of time; they illustrate consecutive positions assumed during a single stride of the mare. The vertical lines were twenty-seven inches apart; the horizontal lines represent elevations of four inches each. The negatives were each exposed during the two-thousandth part of a second, and are absolutely "unstitched."

# É.-J. Marey: A science of visualizing motion

- Physiology: How to make internal physiological processes subject to visual analysis?
  - Invented many graphic recording devices (heart rate, blood pressure, muscle contraction, etc.)
  - “Every kind of observation can be expressed by graphs”

Marey's sphygmograph, recording a visual trace of arterial blood pressure



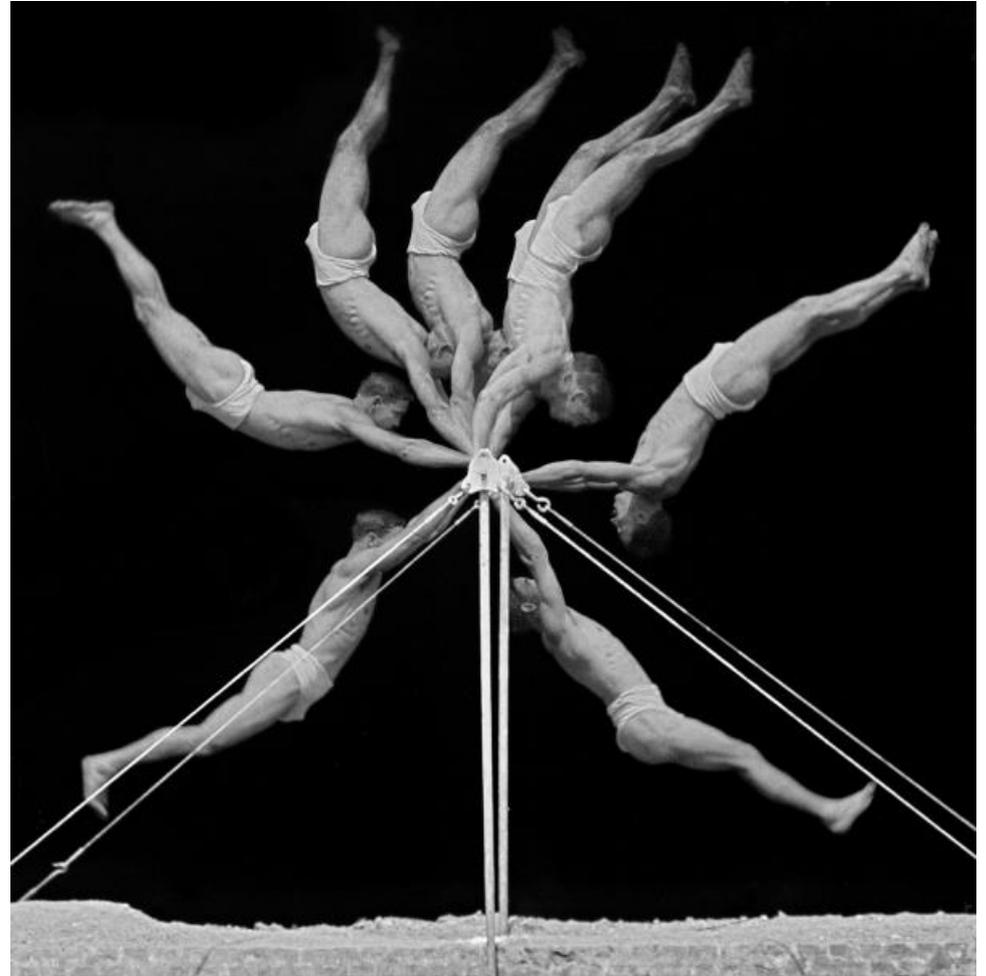
# Animation: Chronophotography

Marey pioneered the study of human and animal motion photographically



Fig. 1. Mait d'exemple de l'outil photographique.

The photographic gun, allowing recording of 12 frames/sec. at intervals of  $1/720$  of a second



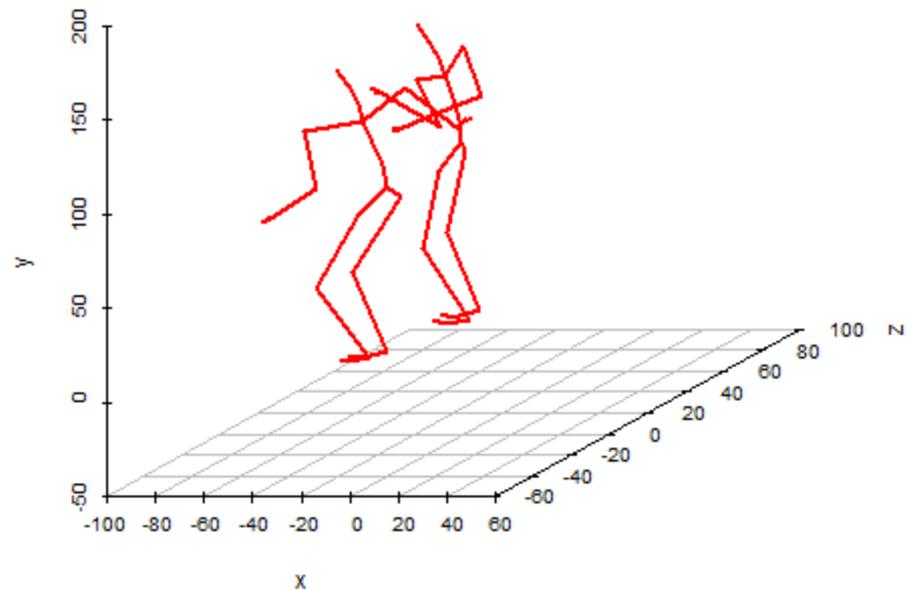
# Animated graphics

1

Animated graphics, like movies are just a series of frames strung together in a sequence

The data for this animation come from human figures in motion-capture suits dancing the Charleston.

The Carnegie-Mellon Graphics Lab maintains a Motion Capture Database, <http://mocap.cs.cmu.edu/>

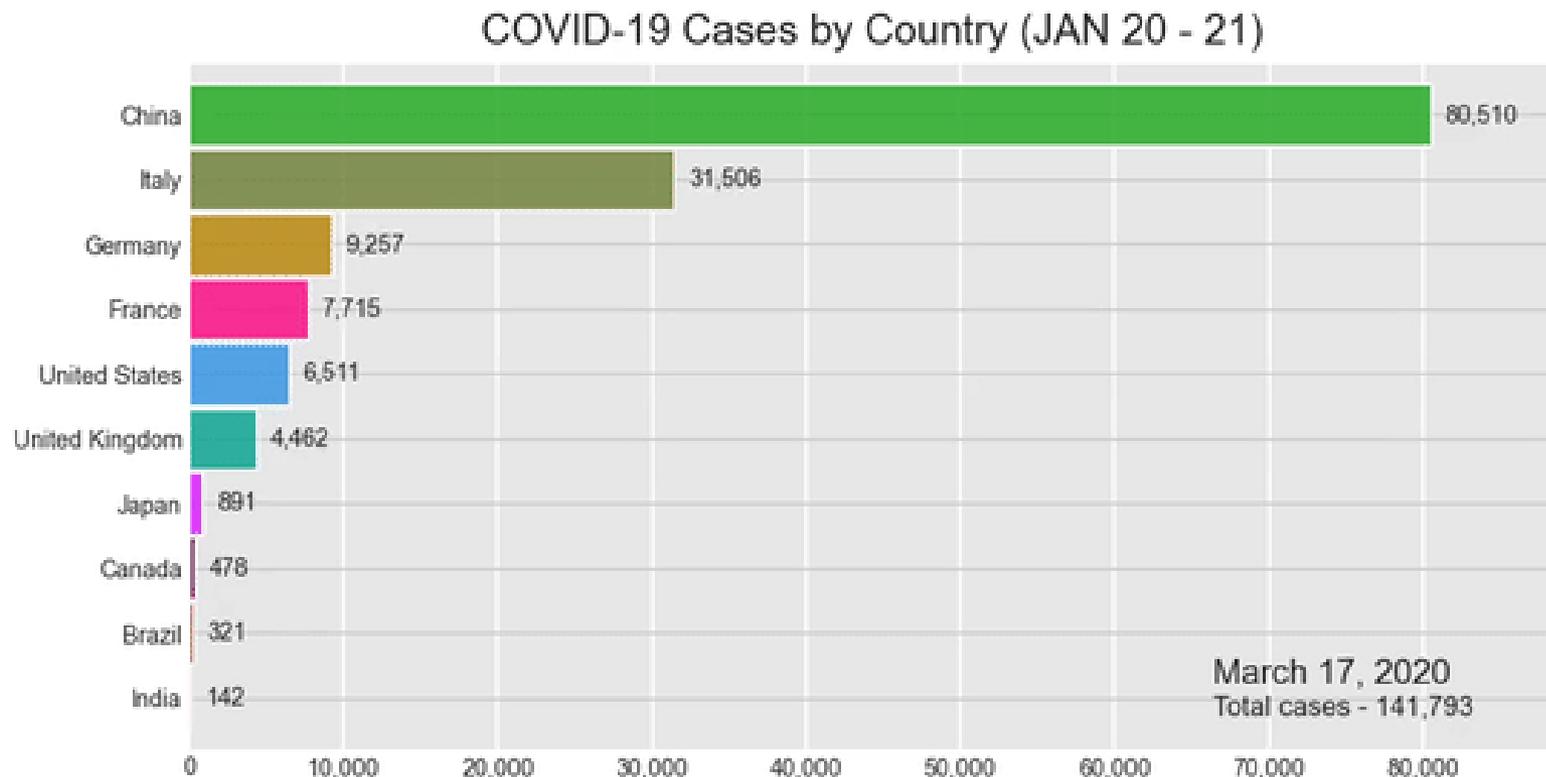


From: <http://blog.revolutionanalytics.com/2017/08/3-d-animations-with-r.html>

# Bar chart races

Data that changes over time can often be shown in a simpler animated graphic

This example of a **bar chart race** shows the strengths & weaknesses of this approach.



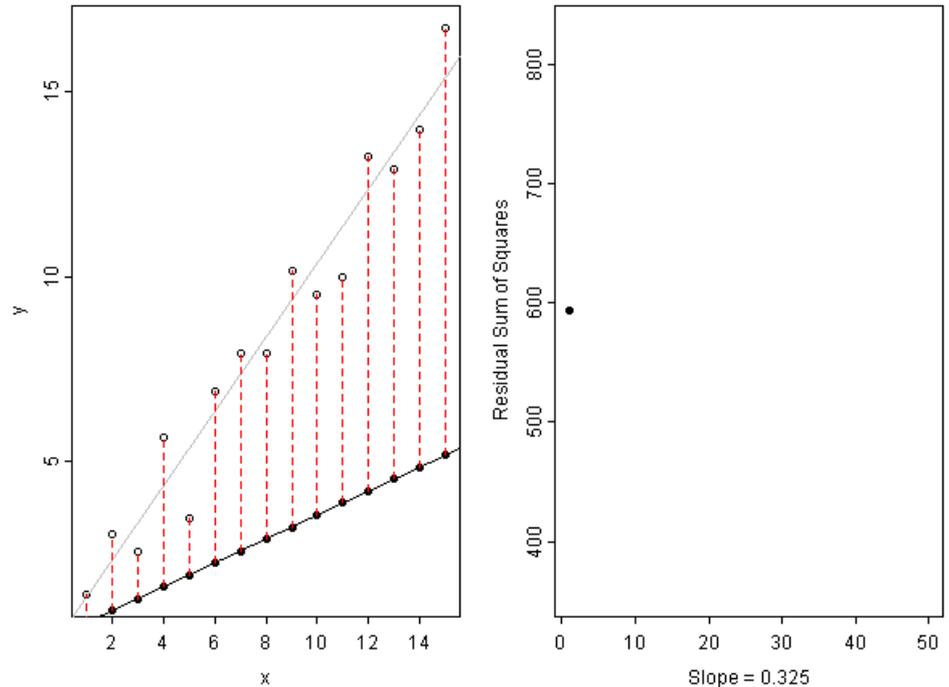
# Statistical animations

Statistical concepts can often be illustrated in a dynamic plot of some process.

This example illustrates the idea of least squares fitting of a regression line.

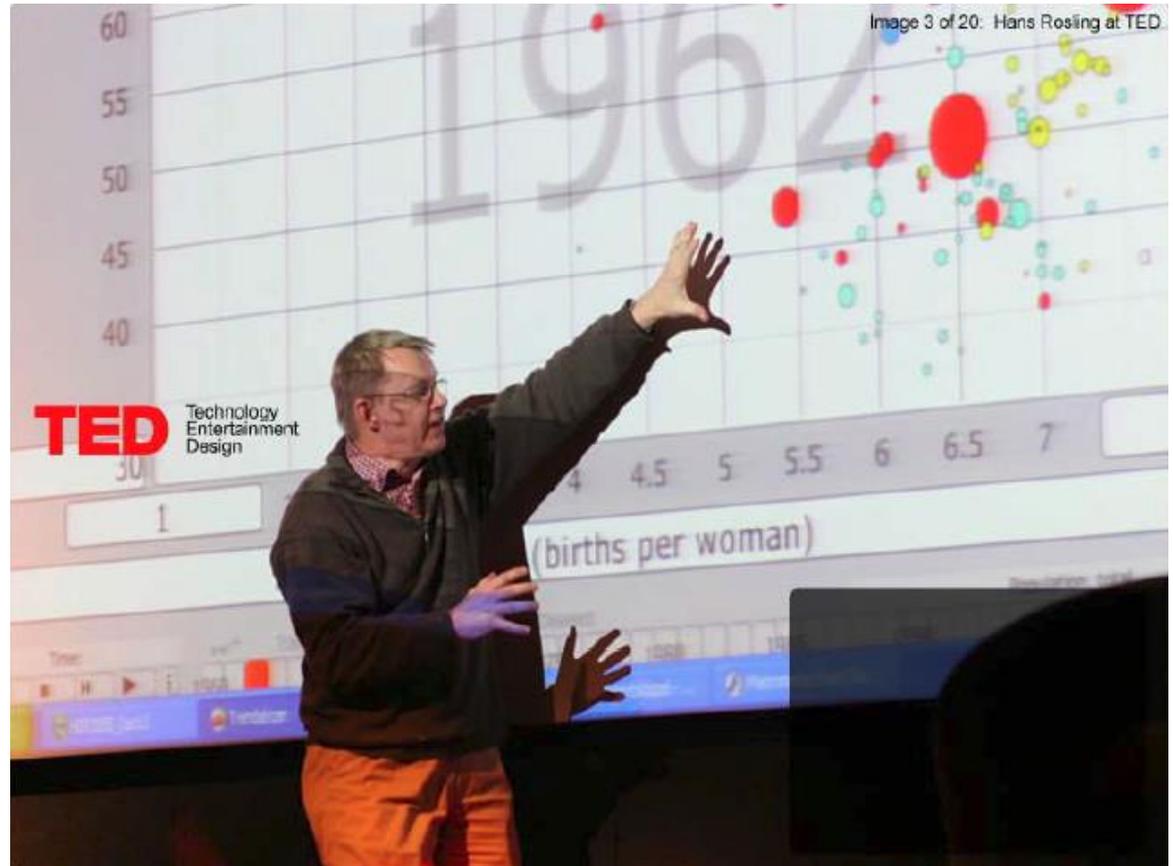
As the slope of the line is varied, the right panel shows the residual sum of squares.

This plot was done using the [animate](#) package in R.



# Animated graphics

Hans Rosling captivated audiences with dynamic graphics showing changes over time in world health data



**Video:** Hans Rosling, “The best stats you’ve ever seen,”

[https://www.ted.com/talks/hans\\_rosling\\_shows\\_the\\_best\\_stats\\_you\\_ve\\_ever\\_seen](https://www.ted.com/talks/hans_rosling_shows_the_best_stats_you_ve_ever_seen)

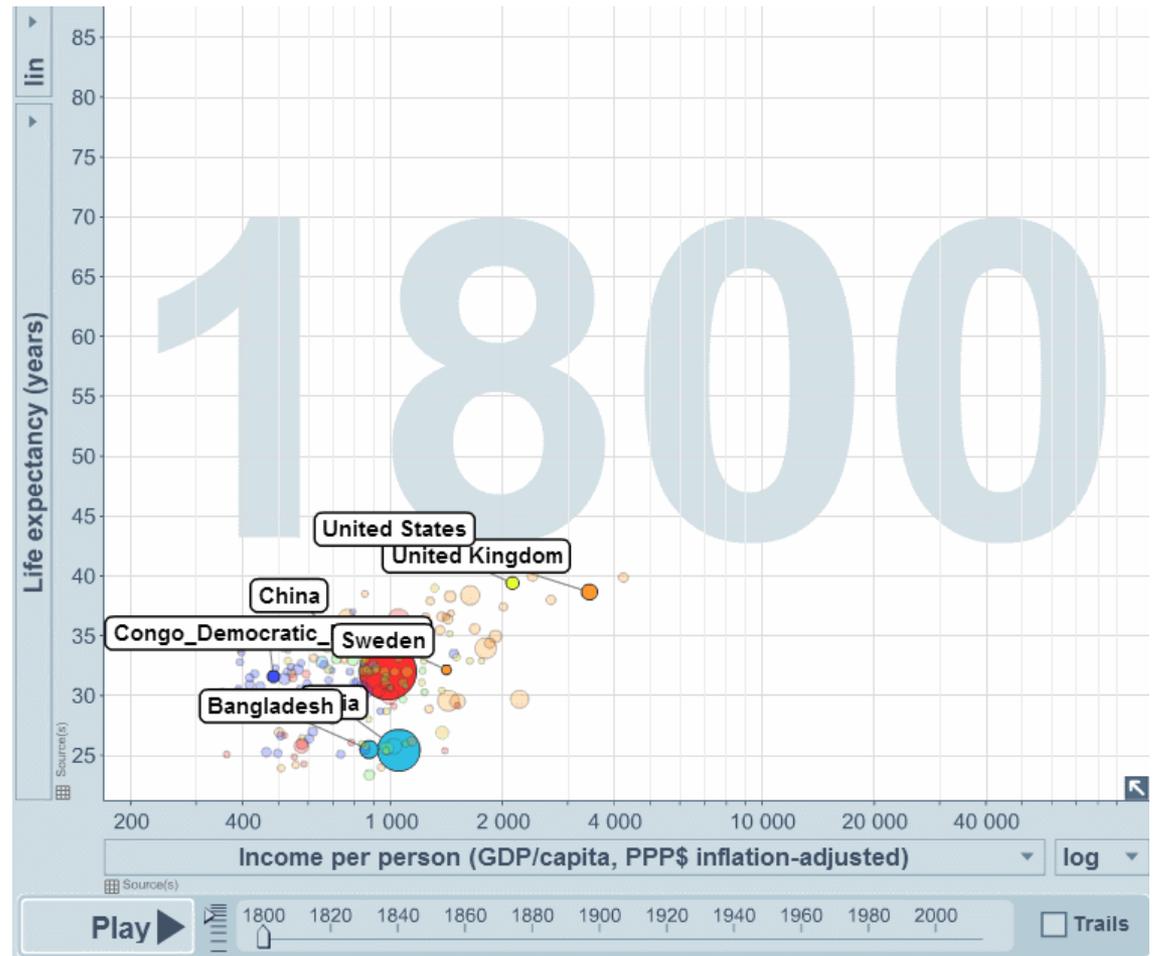
# Animation & Interactivity

The Gapminder “moving bubble chart” was the vehicle.

- Choose (x, y) variables
- Choose bubble size variable
- Animate this over time

Liberating the X axis from time opened new vistas for data exploration

Software made this available as a general tool

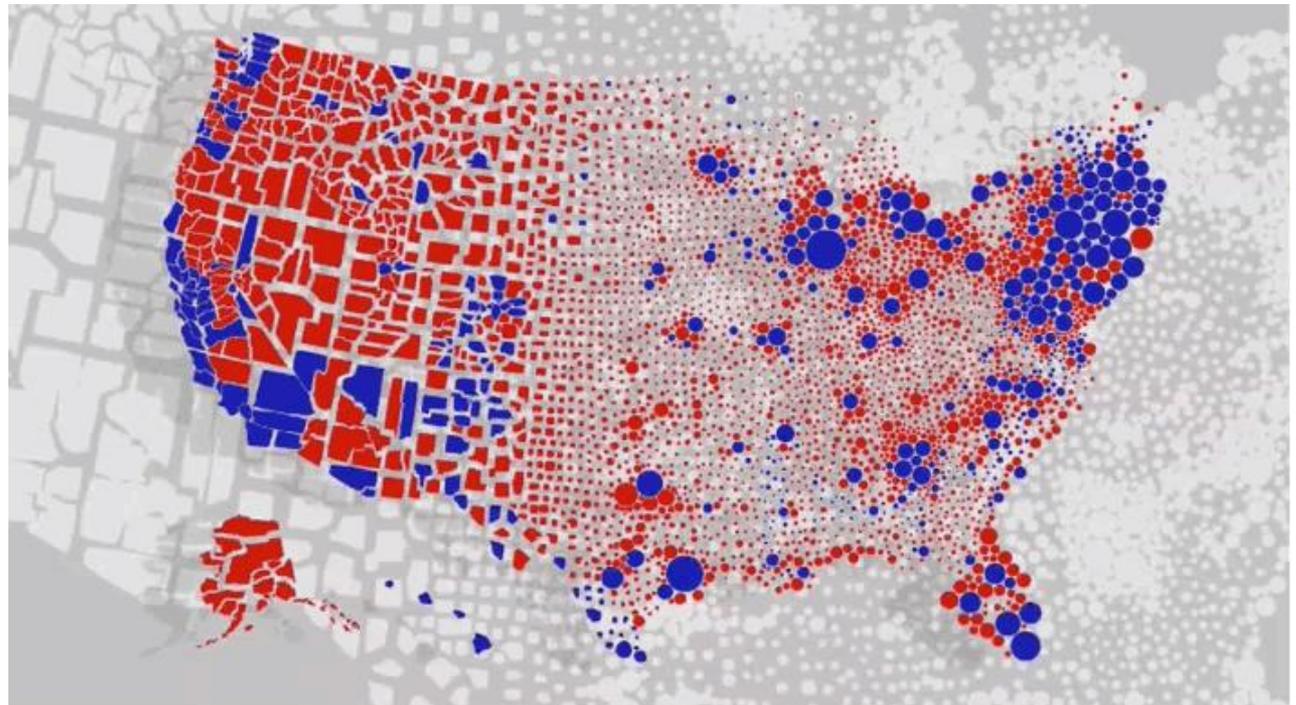


# Animation: Interpolated views

Animation can also be used to show the difference between two views, using interpolated transitions:  $\text{Current} = \alpha \text{view}_1 + (1 - \alpha) \text{view}_2$

This image showed **Rep** vs. **Dem** votes in the 2016 US election, contrasting shading by area vs. shading by population.

Land doesn't vote;  
people do



[Image: Karim Douieb/Jetpack.ai]

# Linking animated views

rgba(228)

This example links a **dendrogram** to a **grand tour** and **map** of the USArrests data to visualize a classification in 5 dimensions

The grand tour animates a series of 2D projections of the 5D data

The image is recorded as a GIF



# Interactive application frameworks

Locating neighborhood diversity in the American metropolis   Explore metros   Compare over time   About   [Source Code](#)

Select a metropolitan area  
Dallas-Fort Worth

Span Parameter  
0.1 0.3 0.9

Download CSV for active metro (2010)

Use the **Explore metros** tab to explore neighborhood diversity for your chosen metropolitan area in 2010. The red line on the scatterplot represents a locally-weighted estimate of how diversity varies in the metropolitan area by distance from its urban core or cores. Click and drag on the scatterplot to highlight the corresponding Census tracts on the map below, and click on a Census tract on the map to generate a chart of race and ethnicity counts.

Click the **Compare over time** tab to examine how locally-weighted estimates of neighborhood diversity by distance from the urban core has varied between the 1990, 2000, and 2010 Censuses, and view maps of these shifts over time. To learn more about the project, click the **About** tab.

Application author: Kyle Walker, Texas Christian University

**Diversity gradient**

**Map of diversity scores**

**Race/ethnicity, selected tract (click on the map to show chart)**

**Census tract 48113016902, Dallas County, TX**  
Diversity score: 0.79

Race/ethnicity	Population
White	1 389
Black	2 173
Hispanic	1 950
Asian	16

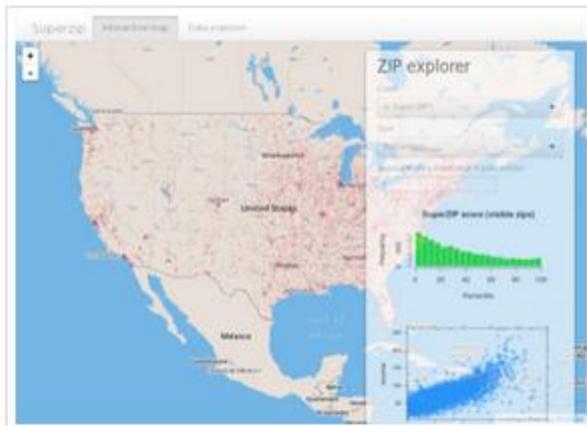
shiny for R makes it  
easy to create  
interactive applications

# shiny gallery

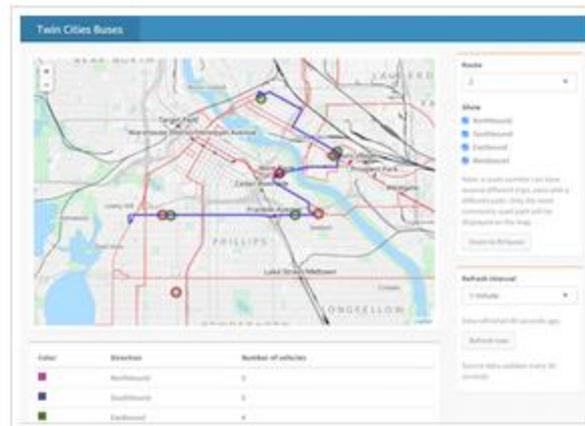
There is now a large collection of shiny applications, <https://shiny.rstudio.com/gallery/>  
These integrate other interactive web software: d3, Leaflet, Google Charts, ...

## Interactive visualizations

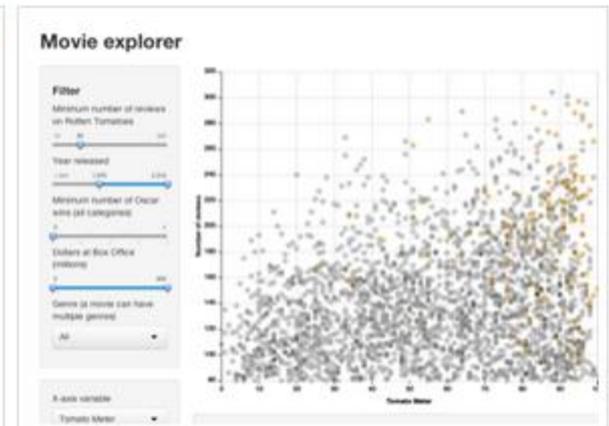
Shiny is designed for fully interactive visualization, using JavaScript libraries like d3, Leaflet, and Google Charts.



SuperZip example



Bus dashboard



Movie explorer

# Summary

- The topics here were largely about data graphs, for analysis & presentation. Mainly not Info-graphics
  - Quantitative data: different forms for 1D, 1.5D, 2D, 3+D data
  - Categorical data: often best shown as areas ~ frequency (bar plots, mosaic plots)
- Thematic maps: visualizing spatially varying data
  - Raw data with different visual encodings
  - Spatial statistical models provide some smoothings
- Networks/trees: visualizing connections
- Animation: show changes over time or space
- Interaction: allow the viewer to explore the data