Data Visualization (CSCI 627/490)

Introduction

Dr. David Koop





What is Data Visualization?









How is it different from Computer Graphics?







The purpose of computing is about insight, not numbers

D. Koop, CSCI 627/490, Spring 2025

– R. W. Hamming











The purpose of visualization is about insight, not pictures

D. Koop, CSCI 627/490, Spring 2025

– B. Shneiderman











Why do we visualize data? (vs. looking at tables?)







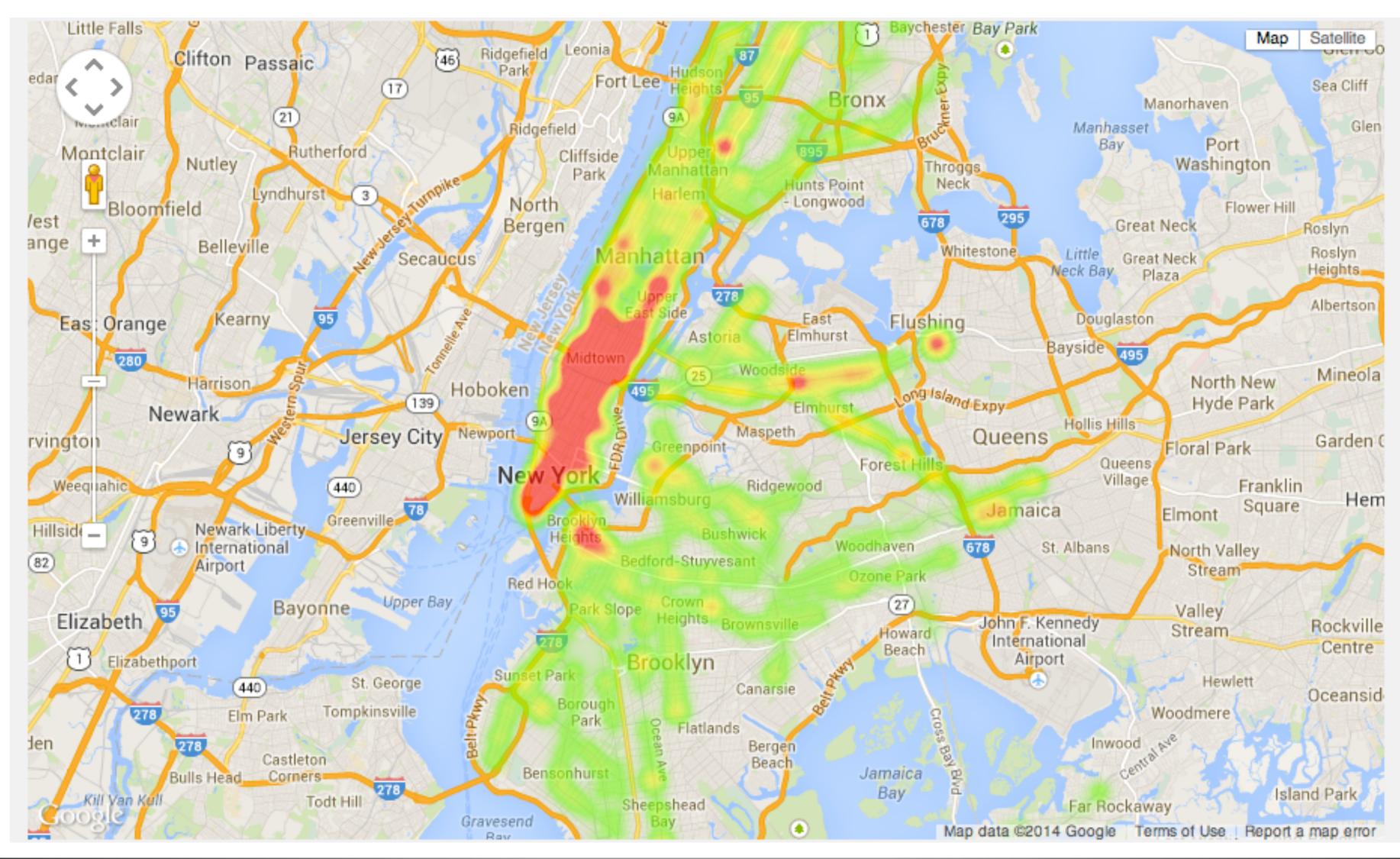
MTA Fare Data Table

	REMOTE	STATION	FF V	SEN/DIS	7-D AFAS UNL	D AFAS/RMF I	JOINT RR TKT	7-D UNL	30-D UNL
1 F	R011	42ND STREET & 8TH AVENUE	00228985	00008471	00000441	00001455	00000134	00033341	0007125
2 F	R170	14TH STREET-UNION SQUARE	00224603	00011051	00000827	00003026	00000660	00089367	00199843
3 F	R046	42ND STREET & GRAND CENTRAL	00207758	00007908	00000323	00001183	00003001	00040759	00096613
4 F	R012	34TH STREET & 8TH AVENUE	00188311	00006490	00000498	00001279	00003622	00035527	00067483
5 F	R293	34TH STREET - PENN STATION	00168768	00006155	00000523	00001065	00005031	00030645	00054376
6 F	R033	42ND STREET/TIMES SQUARE	00159382	00005945	00000378	00001205	00000690	00058931	00078644
7 F	R022	34TH STREET & 6TH AVENUE	00156008	00006276	00000487	00001543	00000712	00058910	00110460
8 F	R084	59TH STREET/COLUMBUS CIRCLE	00155262	00009484	00000589	00002071	00000542	00053397	0011396
9 F	R020	47-50 STREETS/ROCKEFELLER	00143500	00006402	00000384	00001159	00000723	00037978	0009074
10 F	R179	86TH STREET-LEXINGTON AVE	00142169	00010367	00000470	00001839	00000271	00050328	0012525
11 F	R023	34TH STREET & 6TH AVENUE	00134052	00005005	00000348	00001112	00000649	00031531	0007504
12 F	R029	PARK PLACE	00121614	00004311	00000287	00000931	00000792	00025404	0006536
13 F	R047	42ND STREET & GRAND CENTRAL	00100742	00004273	00000185	00000704	00001241	00022808	0006821
14 F	R031	34TH STREET & 7TH AVENUE	00095076	00003990	00000232	00000727	00001459	00024284	0003867
15 F	R017	LEXINGTON AVENUE	00094655	00004688	00000190	00000833	00000754	00020018	0005506
16 F	R175	8TH AVENUE-14TH STREET	00094313	00003907	00000286	00001144	00000256	00038272	0007466
17 F	R057	BARCLAYS CENTER	00093804	00004204	00000454	00001386	00001491	00039113	0006811
18 F	R138	WEST 4TH ST-WASHINGTON SO	00093562	00004677	00000251	00000965	00000127	00031628	0007445





MTA Fare Data Visualization



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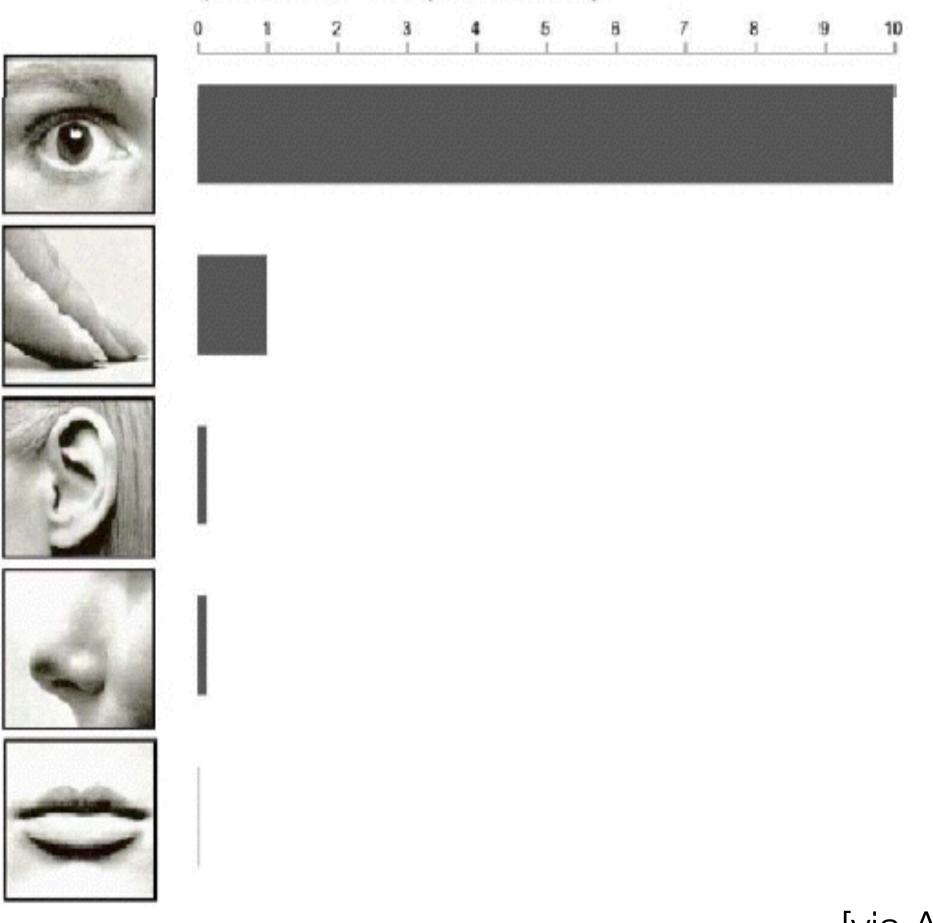


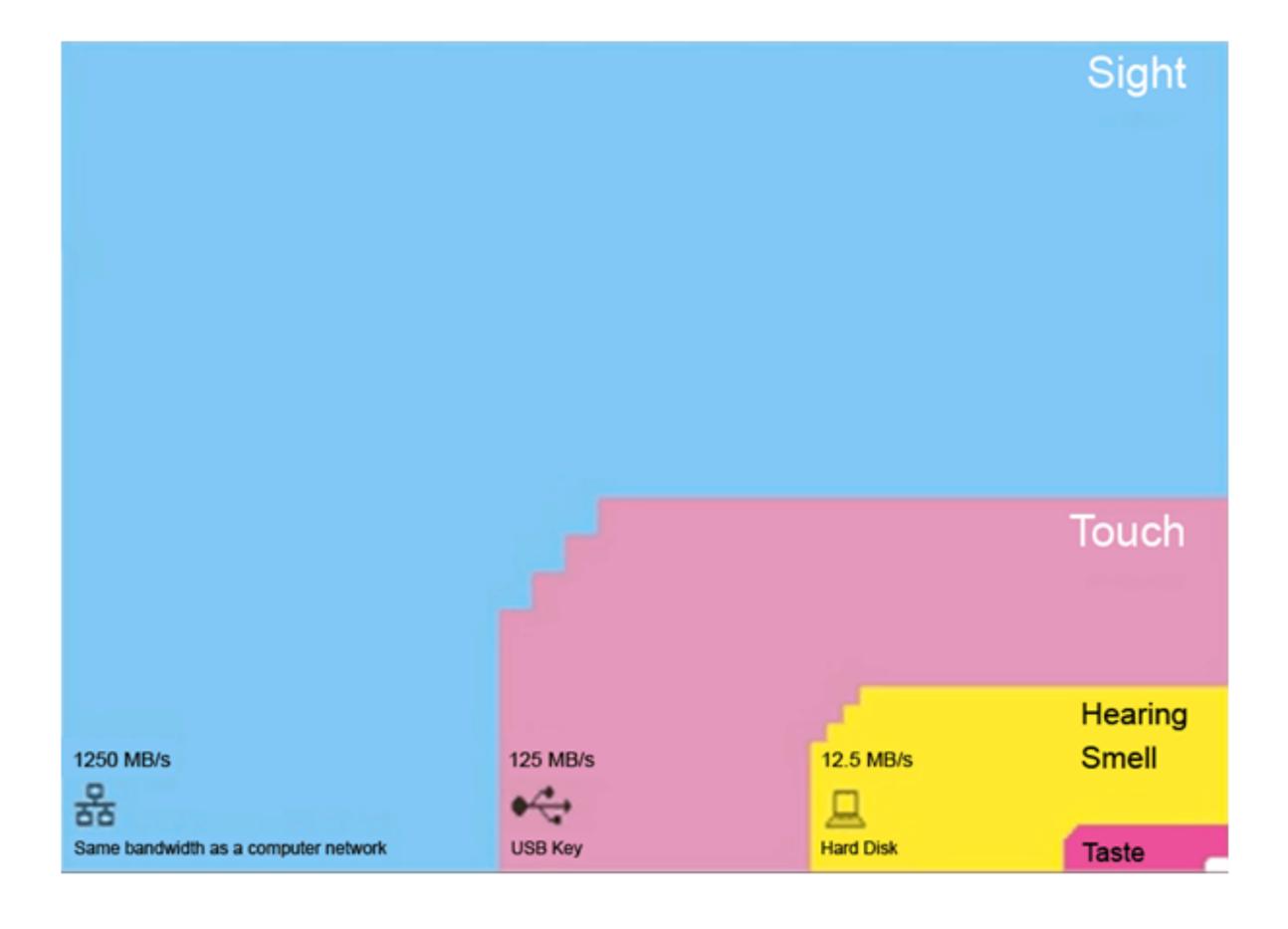
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Why do we visualize data?

Total Bandwidth

(millions of bits per second)













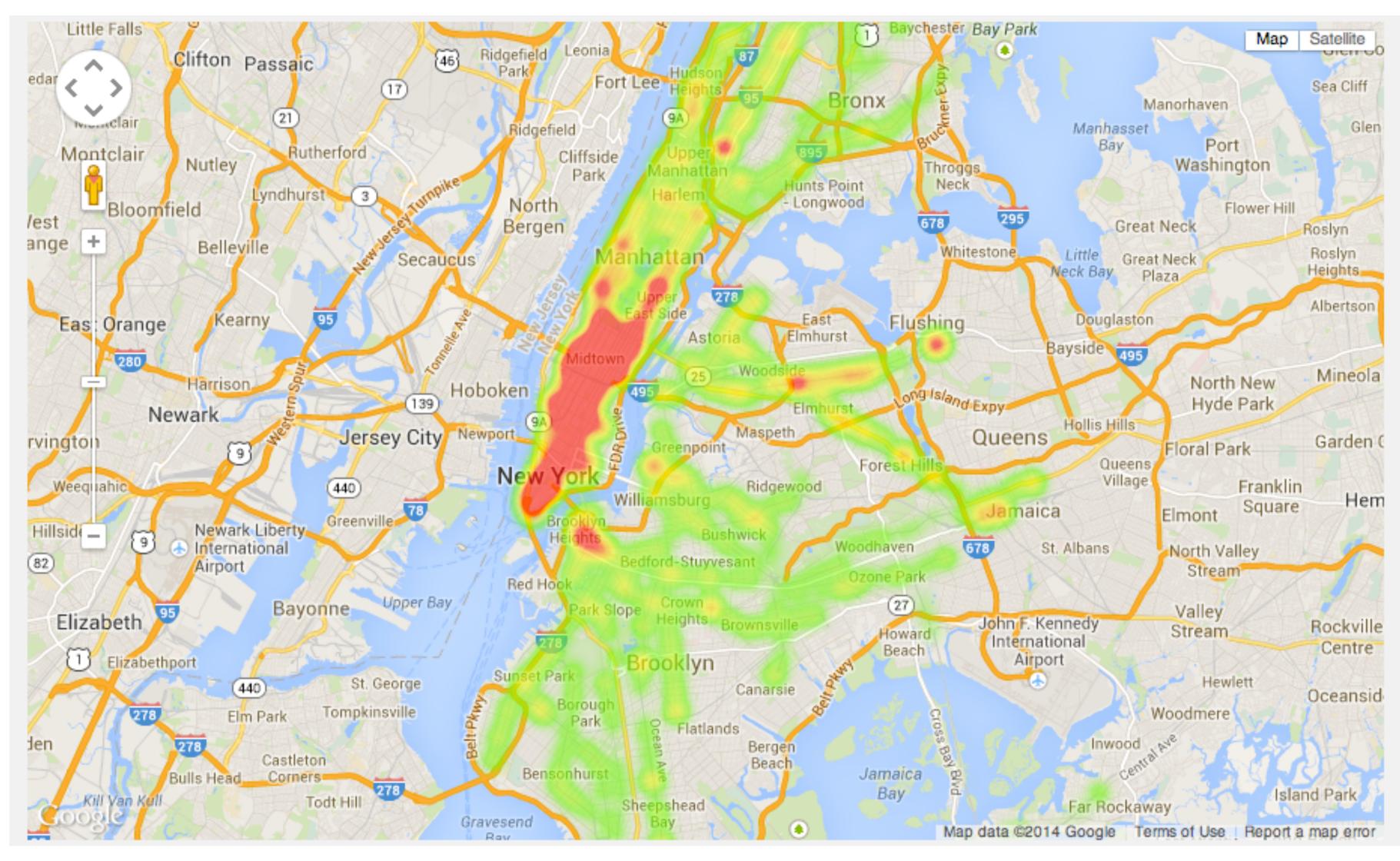


What are the goals of visualization?





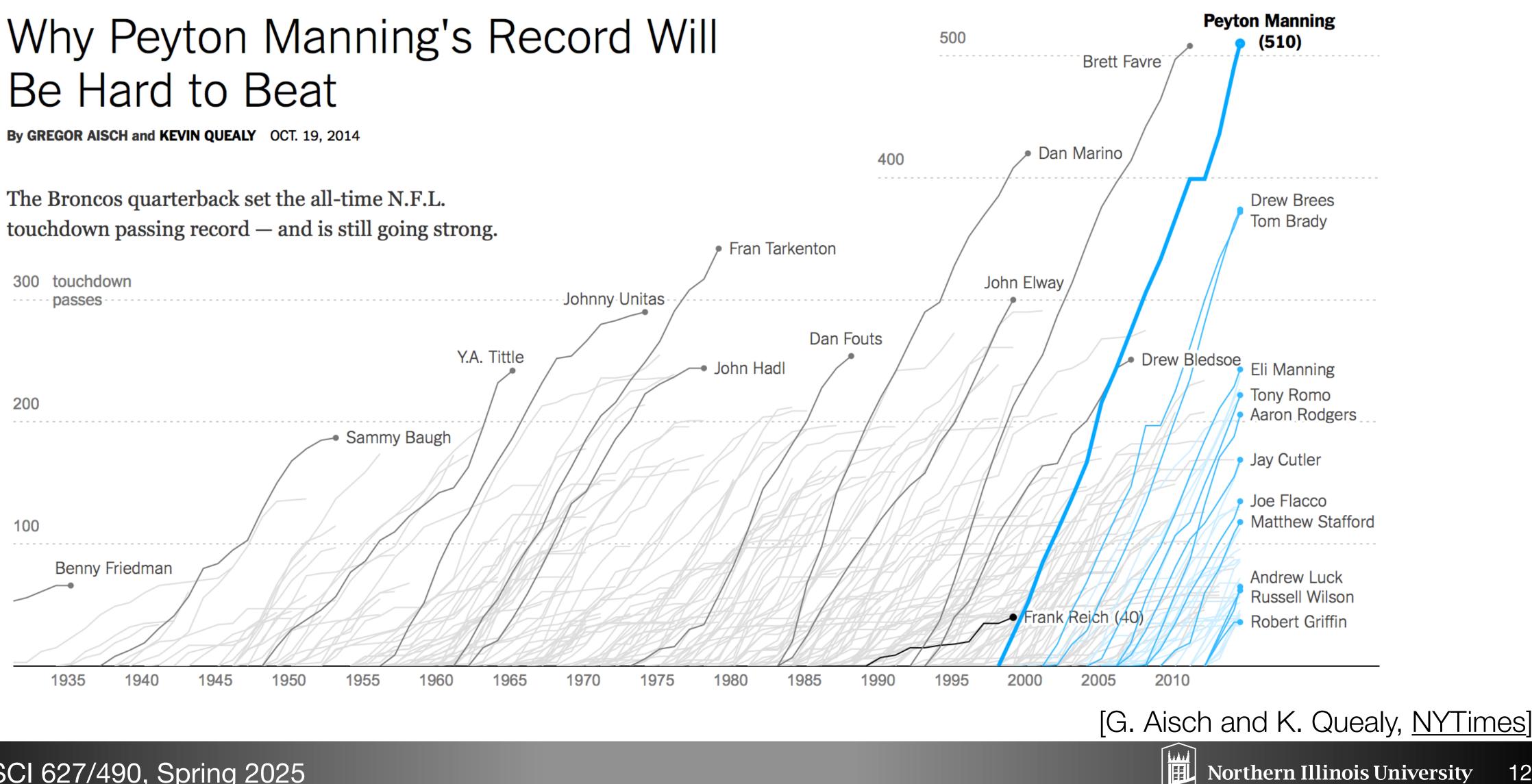
Analysis: Subway Ridership Density







Communication: Peyton's Records



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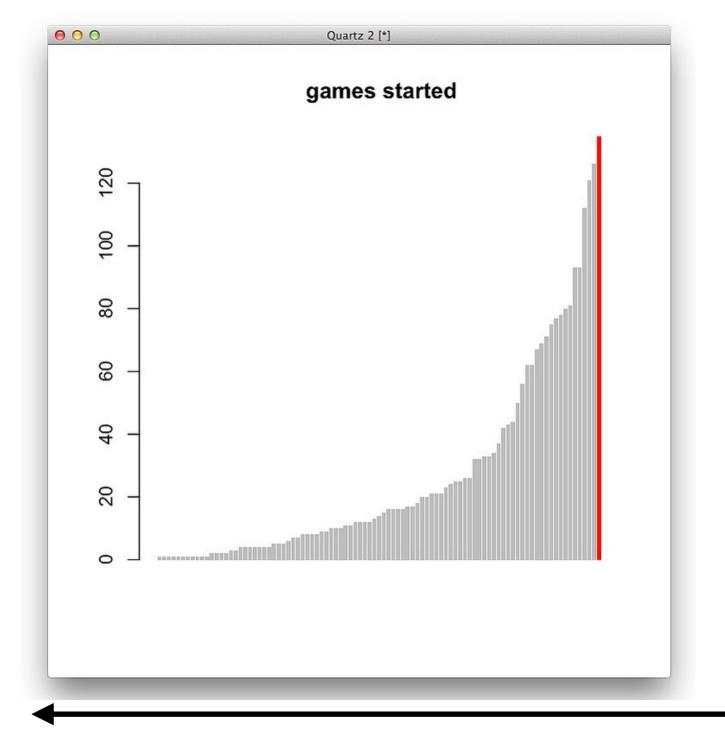




Exploration <-> Communication Spectrum

Consecutive Starts by a Quarterback for a Single Team

Each streak ------ shows

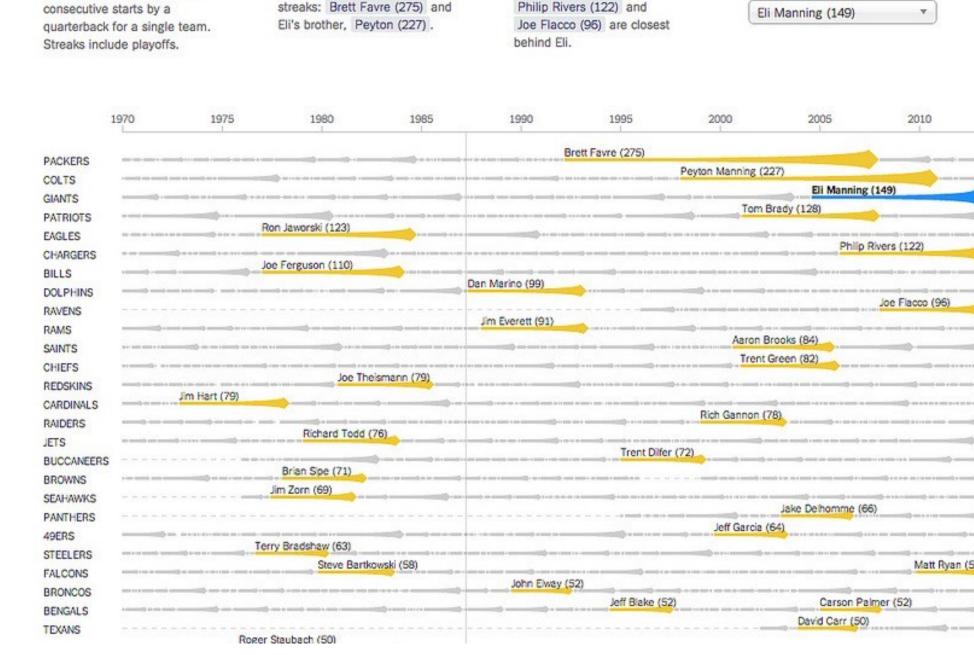


Exploration



Questions

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Only two players have longer

streaks: Brett Favre (275) and

Among active players,

Philip Rivers (122) and

Confirmation

Communication

Answers/Persuasion





Find a quarterback



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What types of data can we visualize?





Types of Data

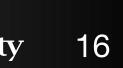
- Tables
- Networks (Graphs)
- Spatial Data
 - Geography
 - Physical (e.g. Scientific, Medical)
- Text
- Sets



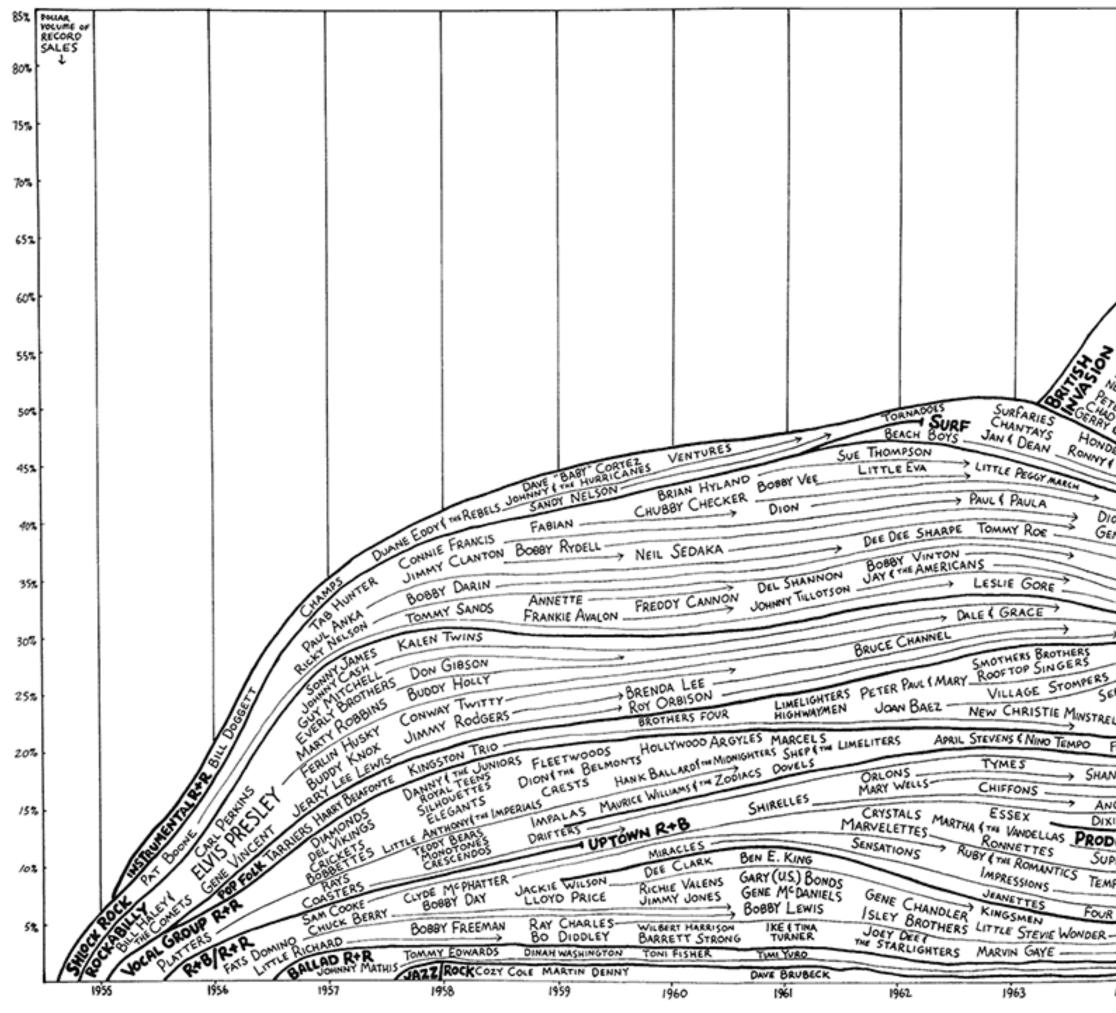


Where have you seen visualizations?

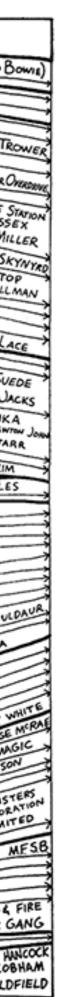




Books/Posters



			GRAND FUNK RAILROAD		ALICE COOPER	EDGAR WINTER	(DAVID BOWIE)
				GIT BLACK SABBAT	(State of the sta	DEEP PURPLE -	
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ROLUNKS ZOMBIES			CUOLE .	JANIS JOPLIN PLASTIC OND BAND MODDY BLUES	James Cure S	DOBIE BROTHERS	REGG ALLMAN
DAVIALS VIDORIROS	STANDELLS VANILLA BIO	BROTHER (THE HOLDING COMPAN	Y NICHT JOHN LENNON	MOODI OLVES	Grand CANS L	OGGINS & MESSINA	
	TROGGS ACIDROCKJIMI HENDI	THREE D		GIL GIL	BERT O'SULLIVAN B	SETTE MIDLER	APER LACE
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DUNINE WINN HERMAN'S HERMITS	VOGUES POPROCKBOX TOPS DUSTY SPRINGFIELD BEE GEES CYRCLE HAPPENING		ALRCASE ORLANDRA	OSMONOS	CHUCK BERRY MAN	DEEN Microw	LERRY JACKS
TER GORATS TREODY & THE DREAMERS	LEFT BANK BUCKINGS	SpiRAL Out	MARY ANNE ANTERS	RICK NELSON	CHUCK BERRY MAN		UL ANKA
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NDELLS PACEMAKERS PETULA CLARK	NANCY SINATRA BOARD	VISS ROOTS	ESTO THUMPE	NY		CT08165	NOY KIM
CATIONAS CLARK-	SCOTT M	LEMON GAP LEMON PIPERS JACKIE U LETTERMEN TON JO O.C. SMITH GLEN MENUSPORT	NESELL ENGLEBERT HUMT	CLIMAN	RASPBERRIES	TY GRITTY DIAT BAND	EAGLES
DIONNIC	SCOTT MCK	O.C. SMITH GLEN	Chi Port Alle	PARIT	RASPOLINE NIT		
DIONINE WARNICK HERB ALPERT & TJB GENE PITNEY	BOB LIND FIFTH DI	MARY HOPKIN JOHN	CASH POPPY FAIR R VANITY FAIR VANITY FAIR	PARTRID	NEIL YOUNG		
RUPPI FOUN SONNY TOWN	MULAMES (THE SHONDELLULU	BOBBY GOLDSBORD ARC	TES EDISONES MALES	LIGHTFOOT	MAC DAVIS	\rightarrow	
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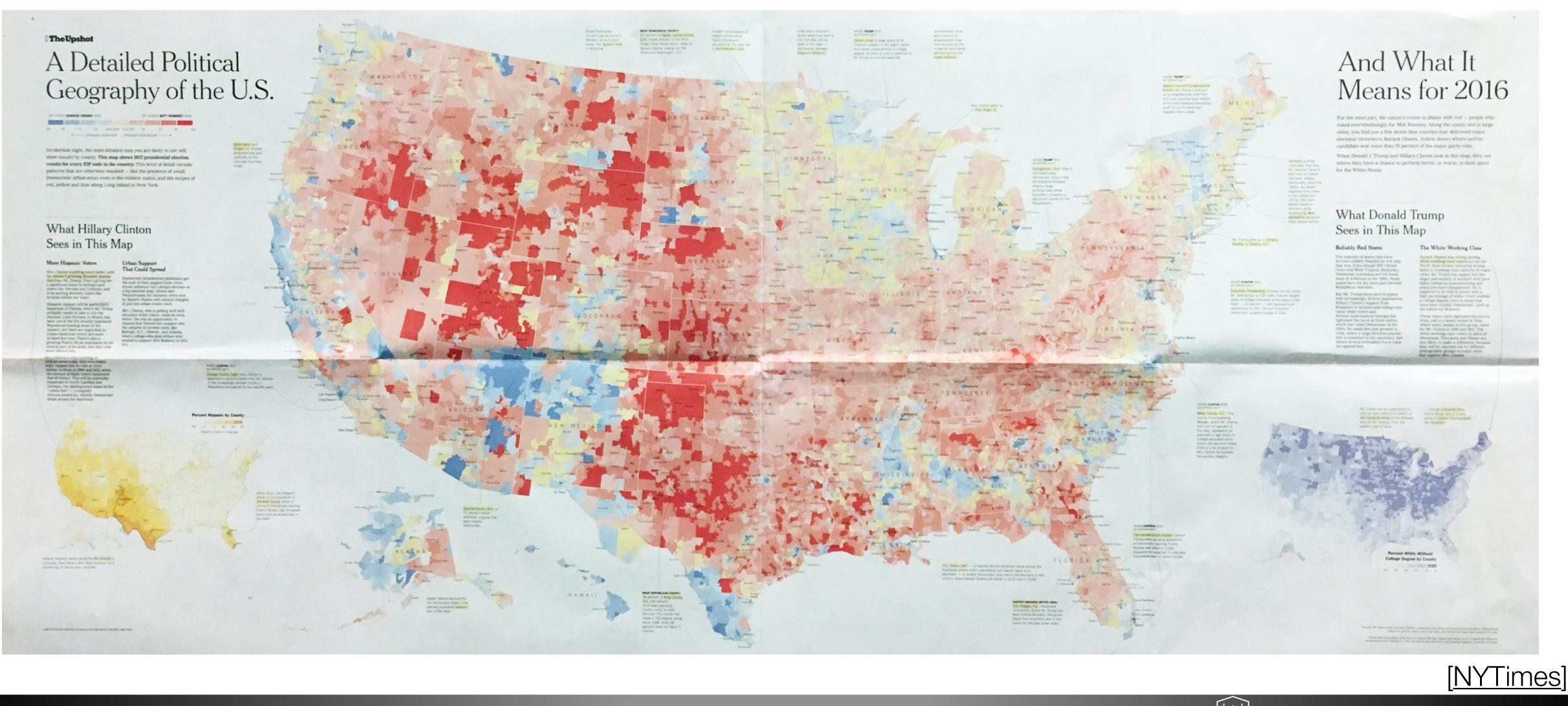








Newspapers

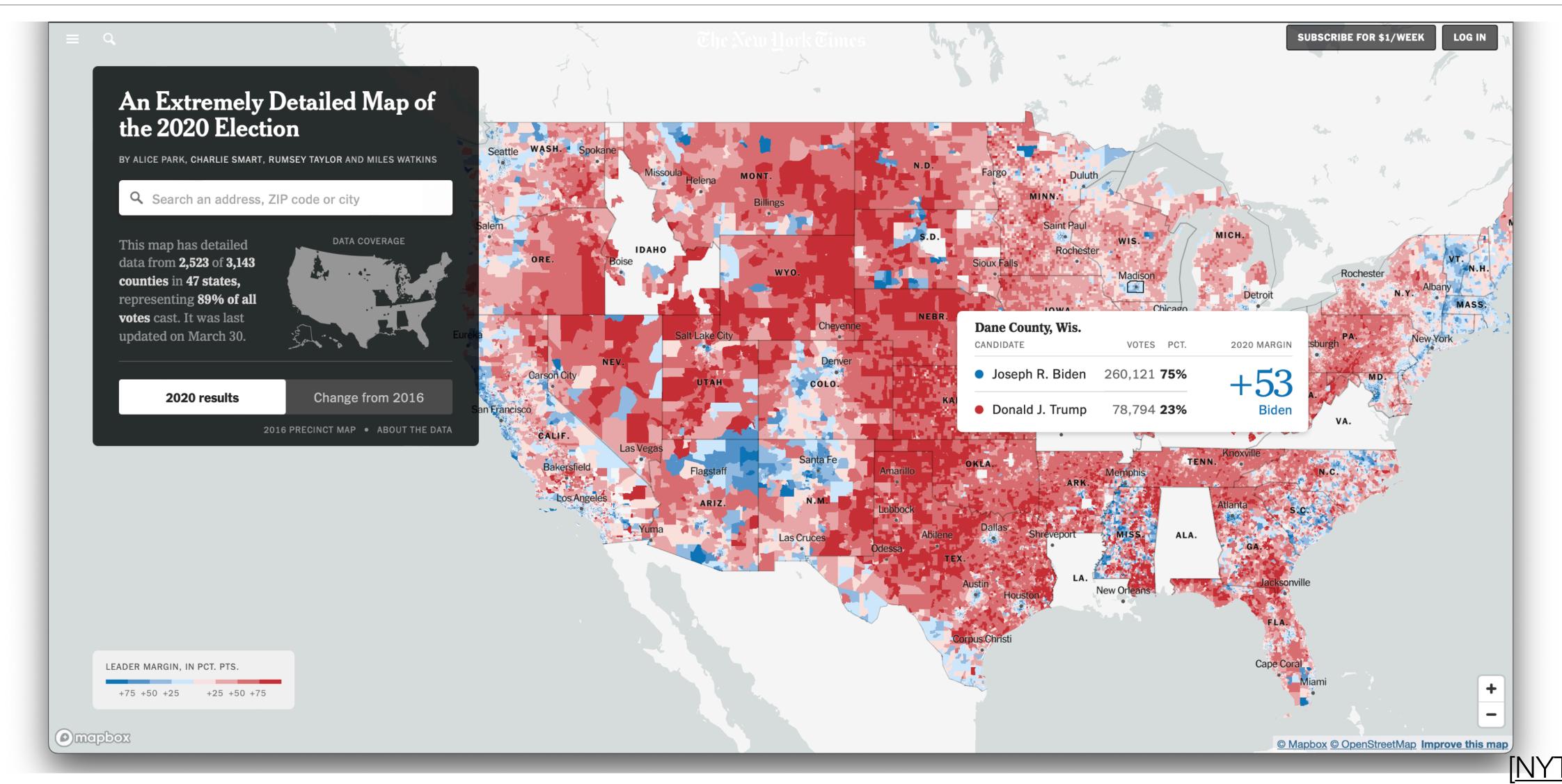








Web



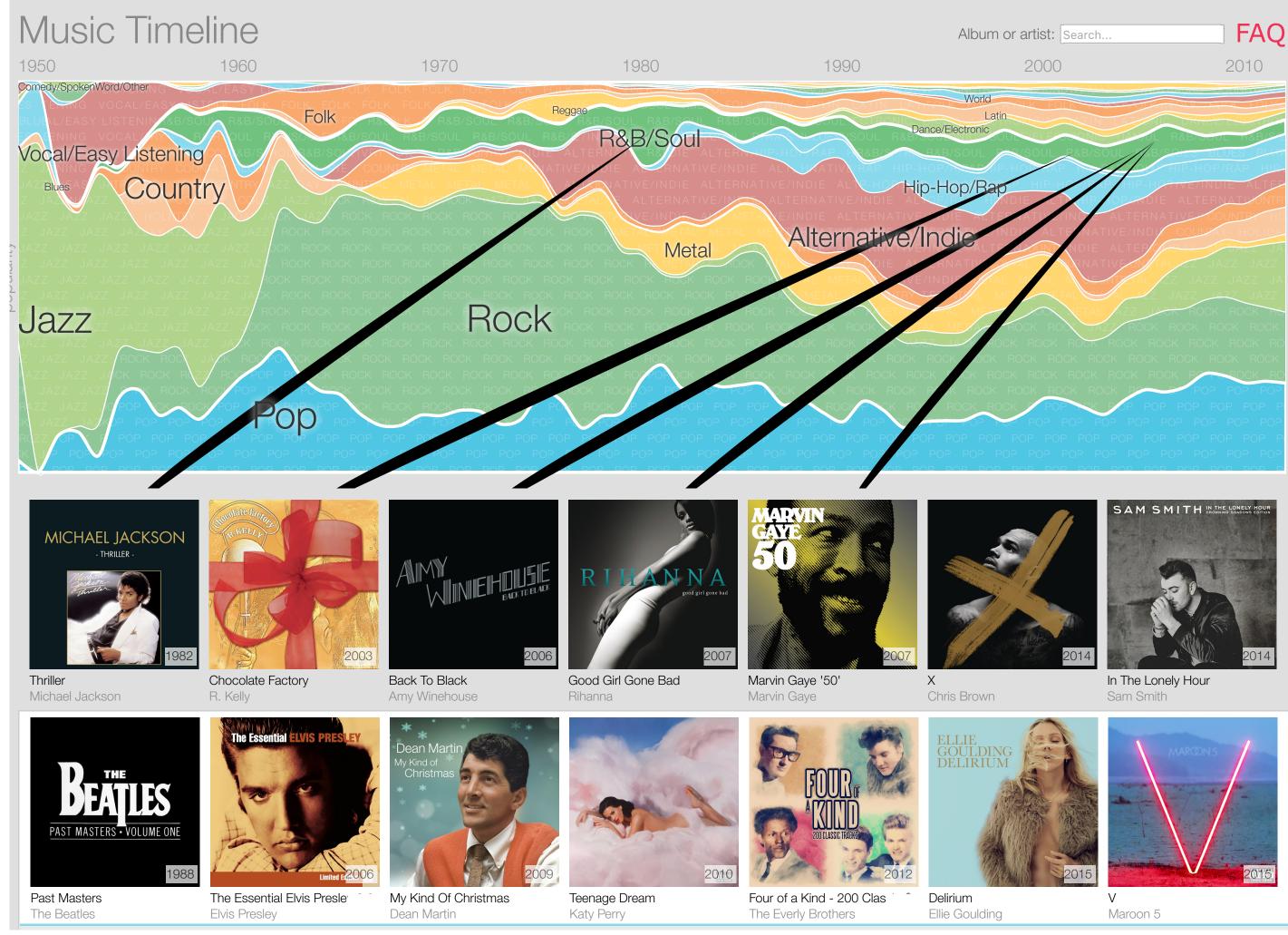








Web



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[Music Timeline, Google Research (No Longer Working)]





What is the advantage of the second version?







Interaction







How do we create modern visualizations?







Tools

- ...

- Desktop Applications:
 - Excel (see <u>excelcharts.com</u>)
 - Tableau
- Grammars:
 - Vega-Lite
- Programming Frameworks
 - d3.js

. .

- Observable Plot, plot.ly, deck.gl

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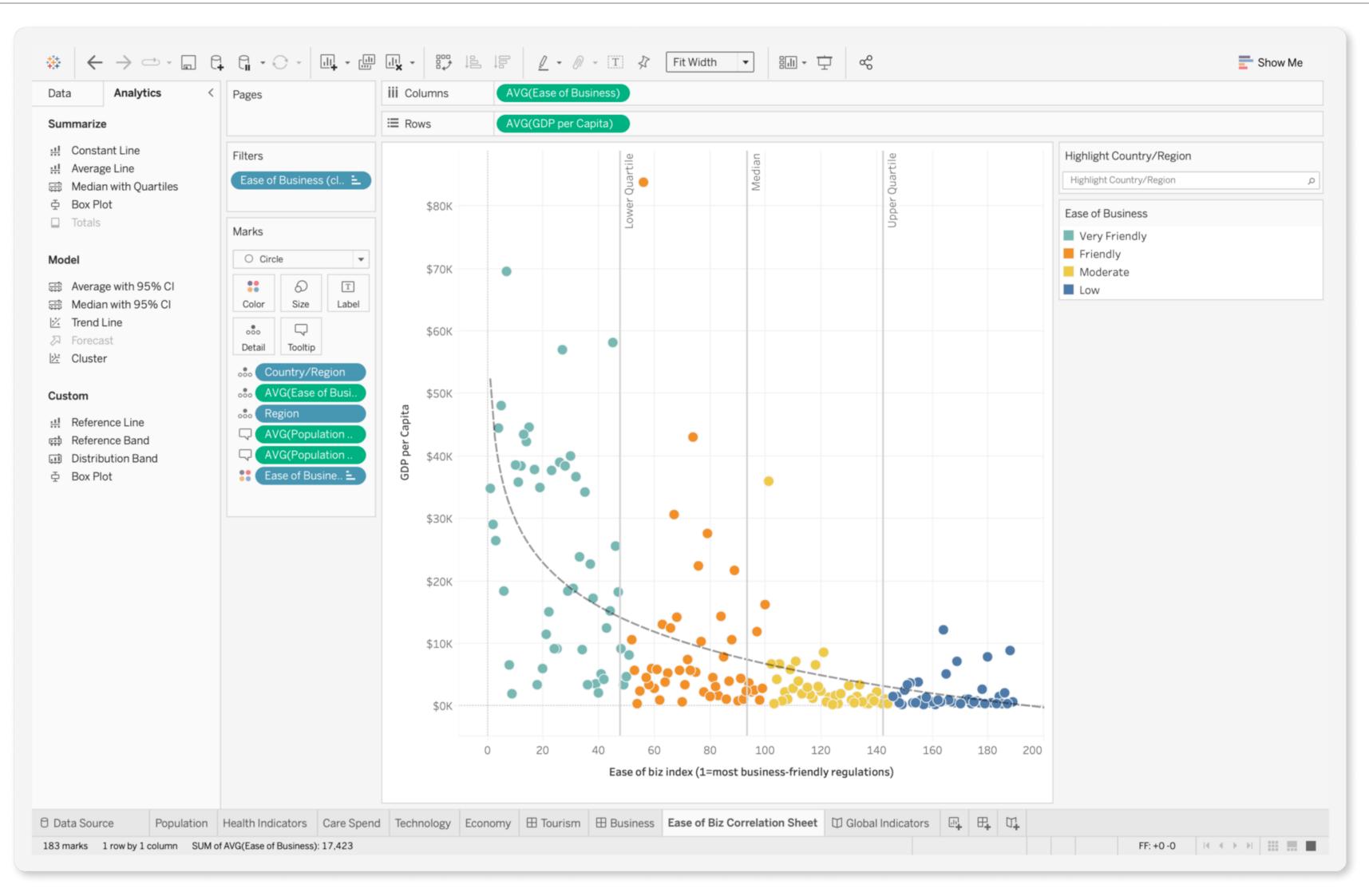
- Tradeoffs
 - Speed
 - Customization
 - Understanding
 - Dissemination





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Tableau







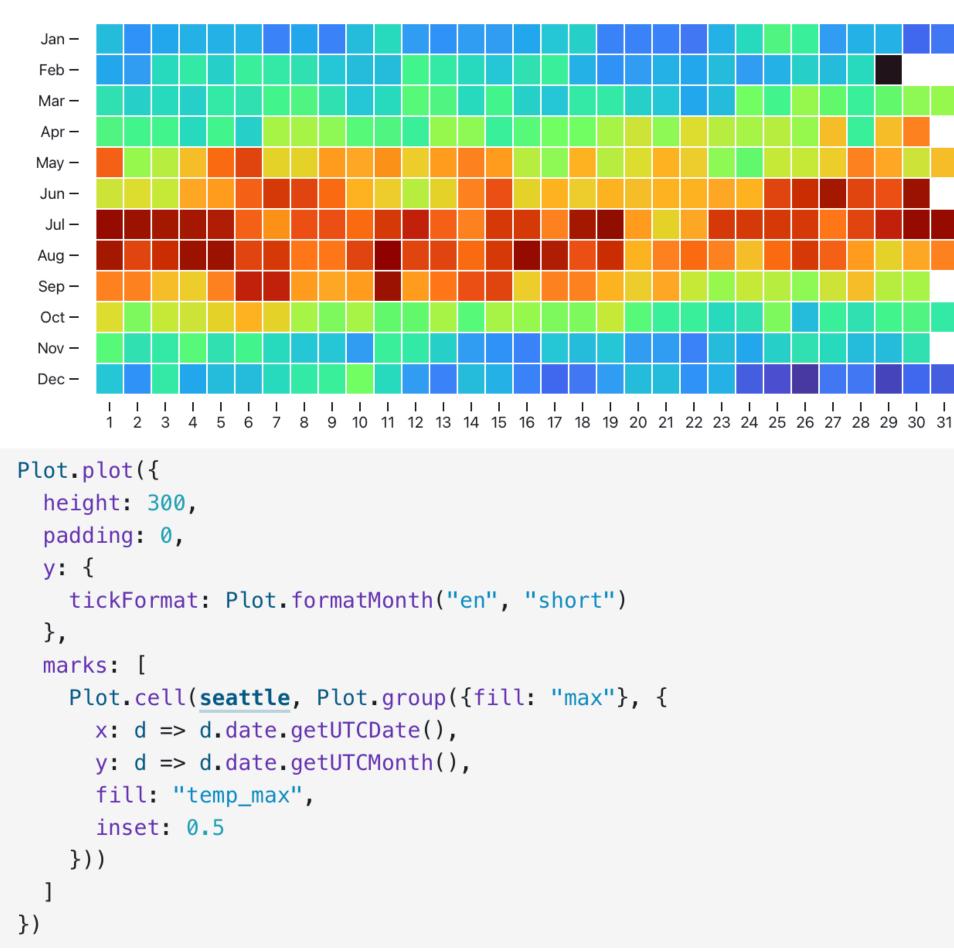






Observable Plot

seattle = > Array(1461) [Object, Object, Objec seattle = FileAttachment("seattle-weather.csv").csv({typed: true})













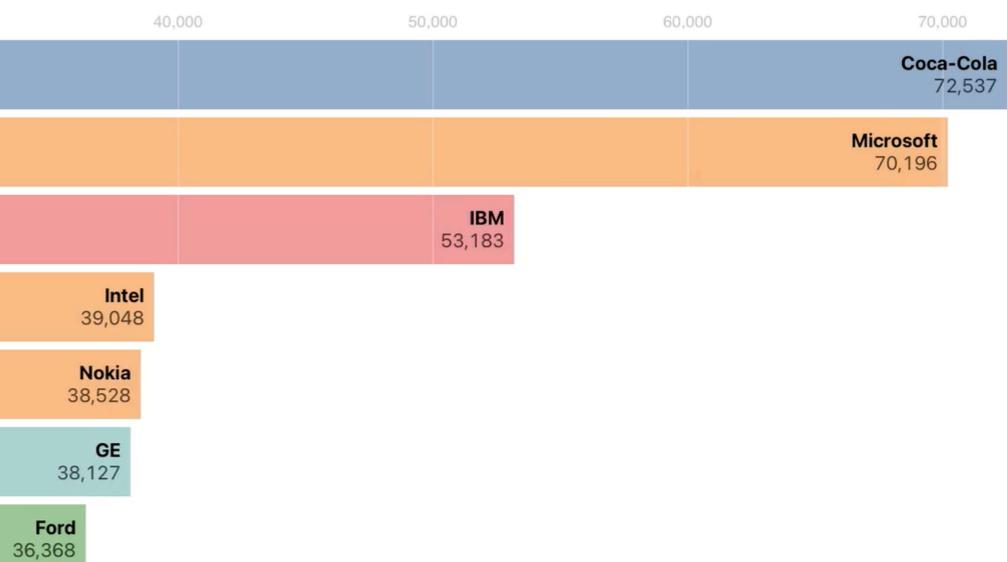


d3.js

Best Global Brands

Value in \$M; color indicates sector. Data: Interbrand

10	,000 20,0	000	30,000
			Disney 33,553
		McDonald 27,85	s 9
		AT&T 25,548	
	Marl 22	boro 2,110	
	Mercedes-Ber 21,10	nz)4	













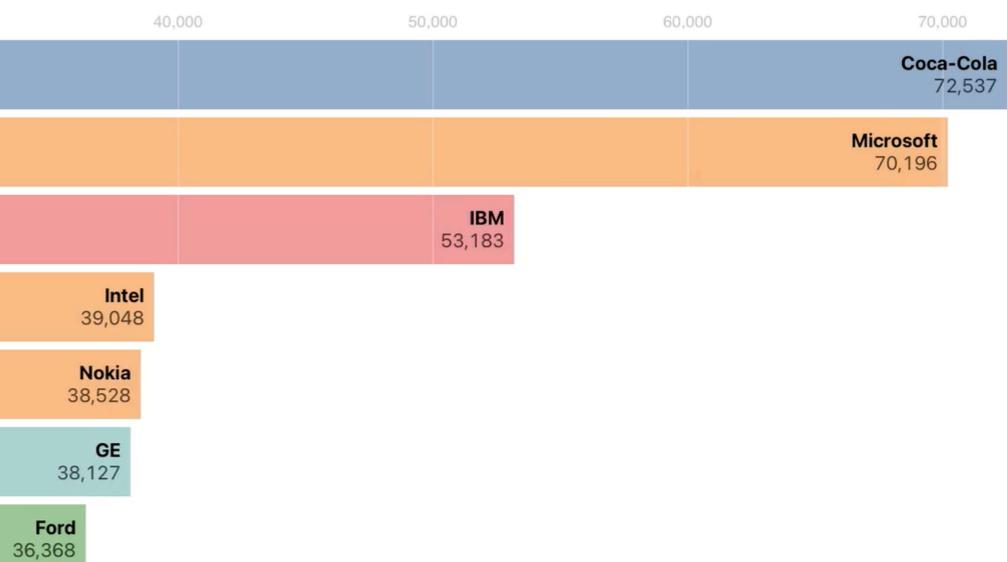


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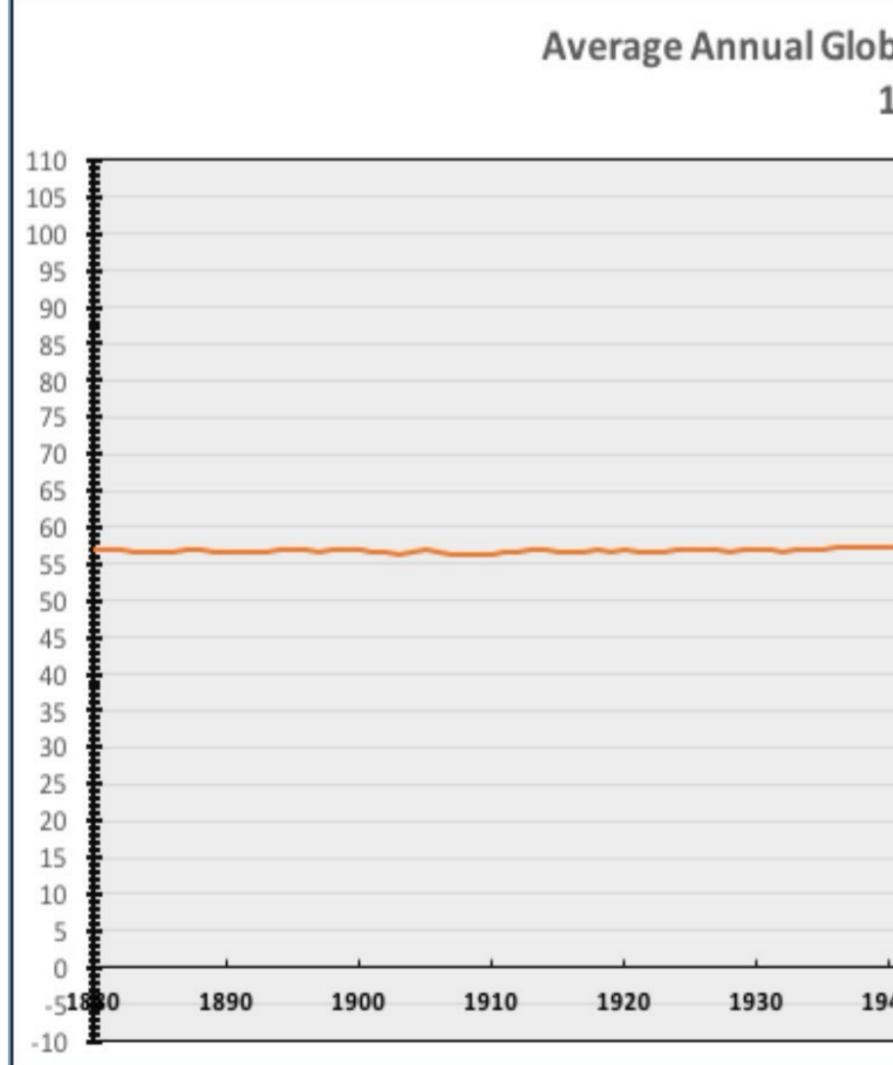
Why do we care about the design of visualizations?







Design: Focus on only the y-axis



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Average Annual Global Temperature in Fahrenheit 1880-2015

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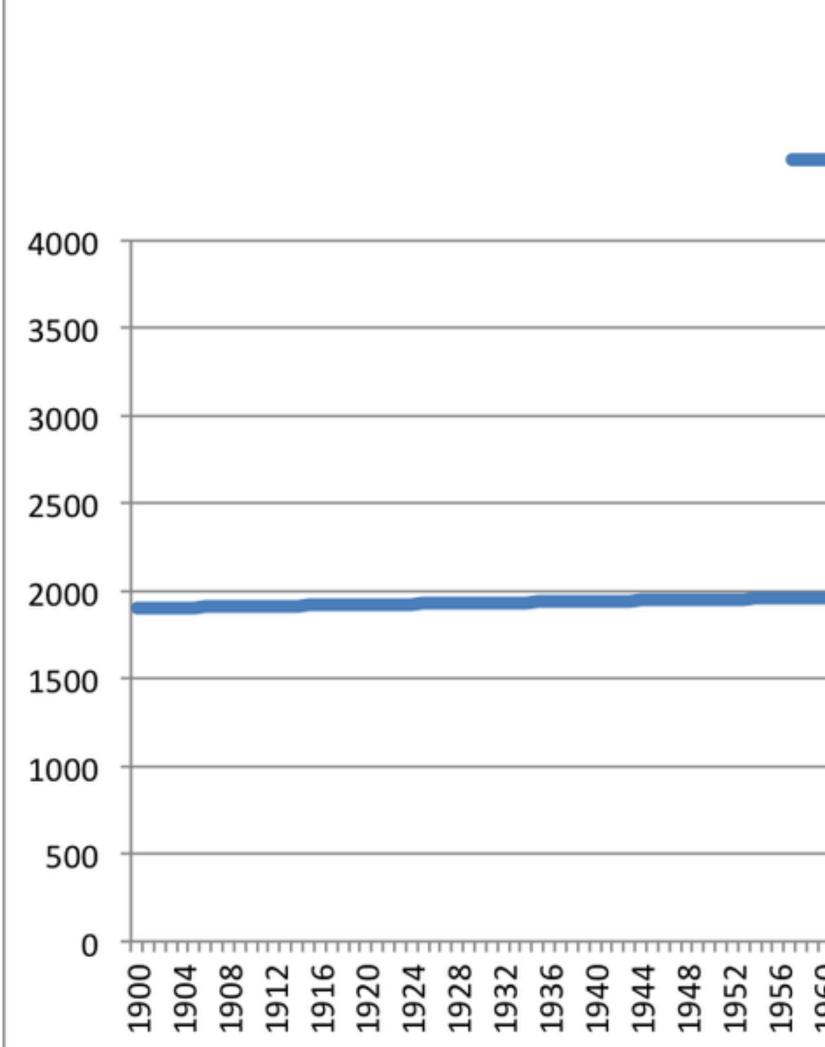








Design: Year on the y-axis



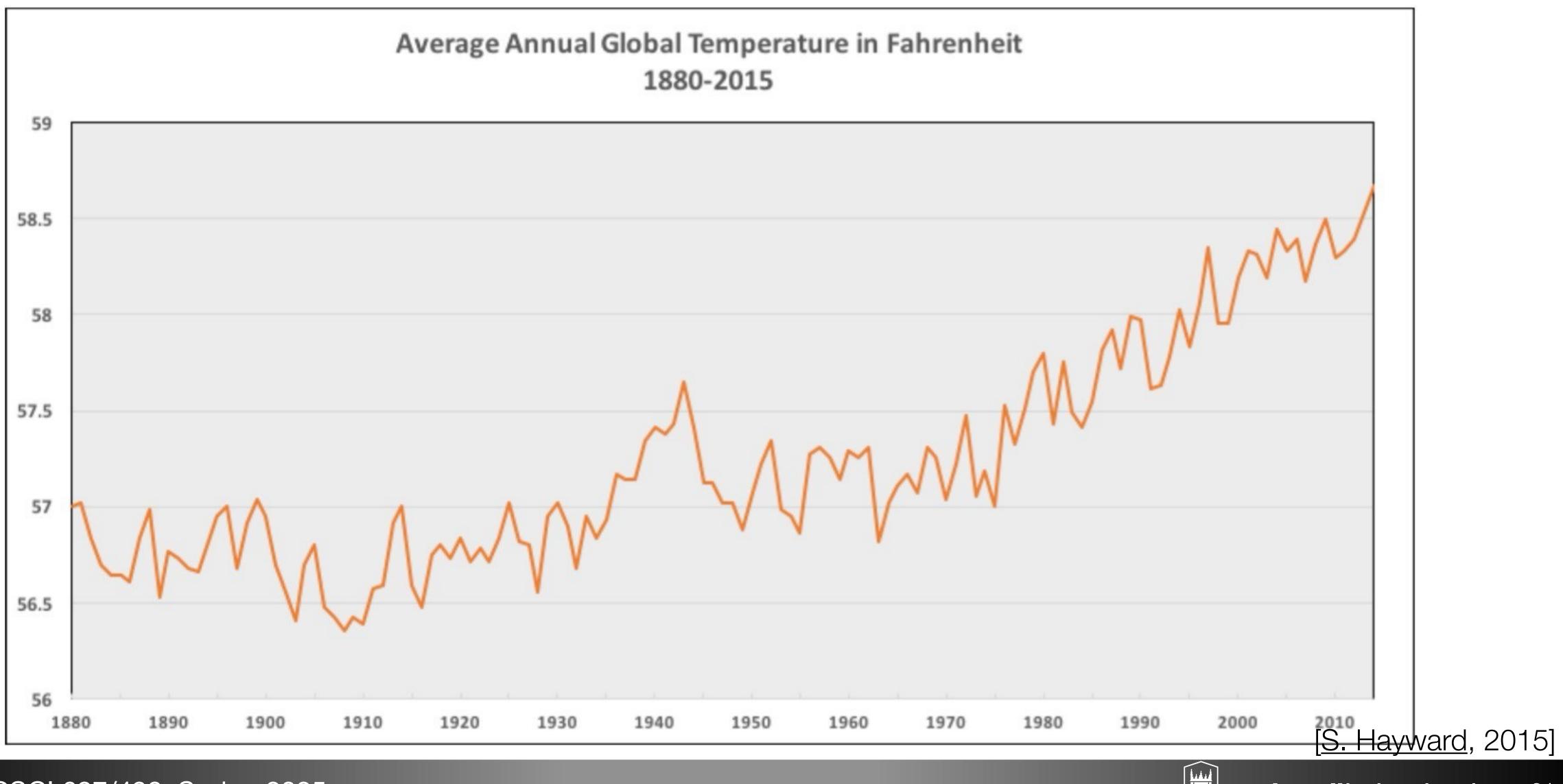
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	Iorthern Illinois University







Design: Different y-axis





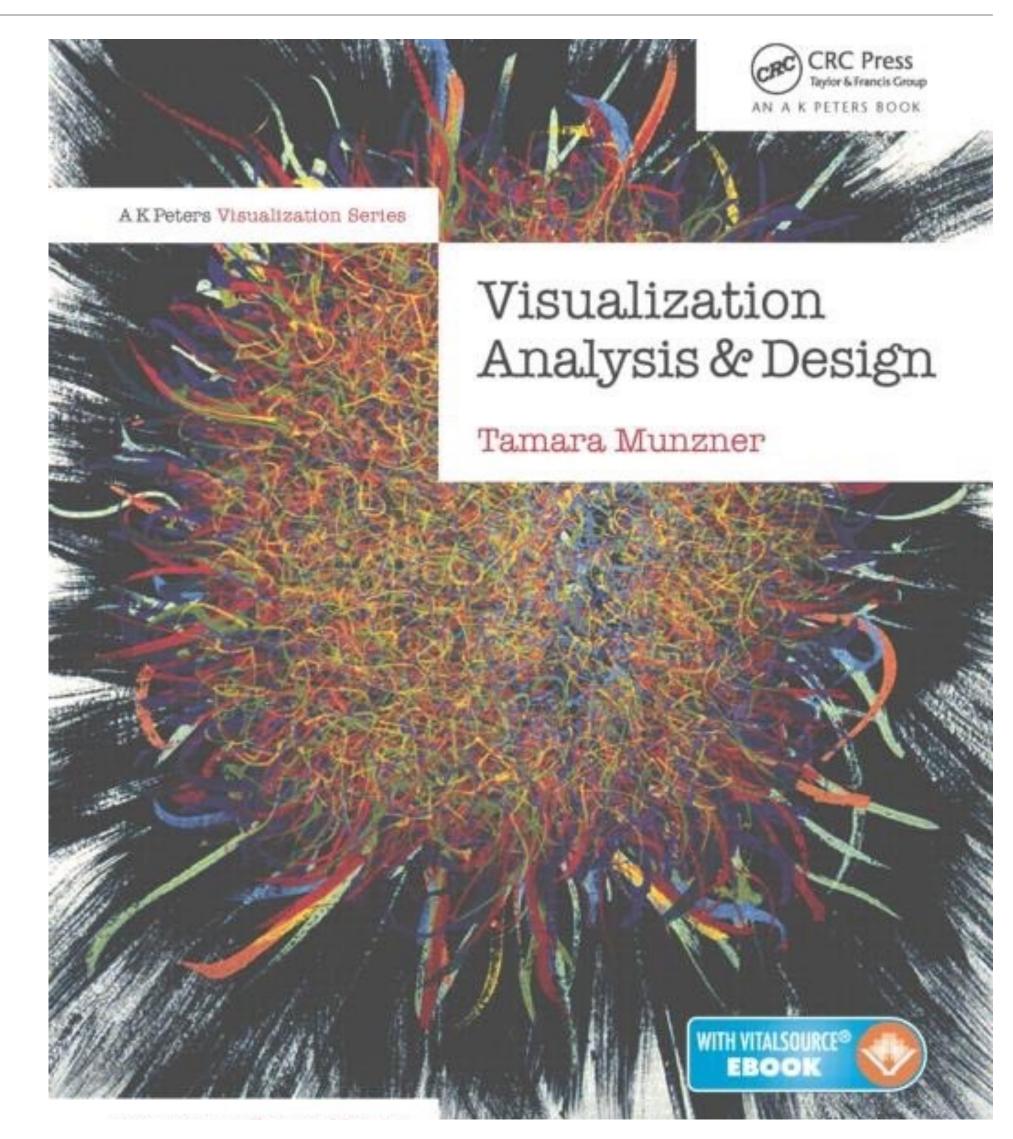






Administrivia

- <u>Course Web Site</u>
- Syllabus
 - Plagiarism
 - Accommodations
- Textbook:
 - Required: <u>Munzner</u> (VAD)
- Assignments
- Exams: Midterm (Mar. 5) and Final (May 7)







Administrivia

- Undergraduate (CSCI 490) and Graduate (CSCI 627) Course
 - Graduate: Extra reading, exam questions, project emphasis
- Research Topics:
 - Also investigate some topics in depth
 - Research papers as assigned reading (CSCI 627)
- Project: Create an interactive visualization (or vis research)
 - Design
 - Data analysis
 - Insight
 - Presentations: Last week of class









Exams, Quizzes, and Missed Classes

- All quizzes and exams are in-person, closed-book, and closed-notes
- No makeup quizzes or exams will be given*
- You are responsible for all material presented in class and assigned readings. If you miss a lecture, be sure to obtain class notes from a classmate before the next class meeting









Office Hours & Communication

- Office hours will be held in person
- Scheduled office hours are open to all students
 - M: 1:45-3pm, W: 10:45am-12pm, or by appointment
- You do not need an appointment to stop in during scheduled office hours
- If you need an appointment outside of those times, please email me with details about what you wish to discuss
- Many questions can be answered via email. Please consider writing an email before scheduling a meeting.
- Do not send me screenshots of code! (send code or Observable links)







Do not cheat!







Do not plagiarize

- It is **Academic Misconduct**
- Do your own work, do not copy anyone else's work, text, sentences, ...
 - Anyone = another student, an internet source, book, blog, ...
- Do not share your work with anyone else
- Never quote text unless there is a specific need.
 - "I think there is a world market for maybe five computers." -Thomas Watson (1874-1956), Chairman of IBM, 1943)
- Cite sources that back up your claims or reflect the origin of an idea
 - Vertex cover is an NP-Complete problem [1]. ... [1] Garey, M. R., and Johnson, D. S., "Computers and intractability: a guide to NP-completeness." 1979.







Do not cheat

- Cheating on assignments, projects, and exams is not allowed • You will receive a zero for any assignment/exam/etc. where cheating has
- occurred
- You will **fail** the course if you cheat more than once
- Misconduct is reported through the university's system
- You may discuss problems and approaches with other students
- You may not copy or transcribe code from another source (includes generative AI)







Do ask questions!







Do ask questions

- If you are stuck on a specific issue with an assignment: - Do consult books, online documentation, tutorials
- - Do discuss that specific issue with a classmate
 - Do email me with **specific** questions
- If you are asked about a question:
 - Do not share your code
 - If the questioner is trying to cheat, walk away
 - If you see an obvious mistake, kindly point it out
 - Suggest a specific function or library that may be useful
 - Discuss approaches or techniques





Questions?



