Data Visualisation

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General information

- Please make sure your display name is your actual name
- Please keep your audio muted
- If you have questions
 - use raise hand function
 - or type it in the chat
- Slides will be available in a few days after the lecture.



Learning Outcomes

- Choose appropriate chart types
- Avoid common mistakes in data visualisation
- Maximise data-ink ratio

Overview

- Data type determines chart type (Theory → Example → Test)
- Avoiding common mistakes (Theory → Examples)
- Figure design best practices (Theory → Examples)
- Improving the visual design of the figure

University of Tartu course

Andmete visualiseerimine ja esitlus (Data Visualization and Storytelling) LTAT.02.008

e-course

lecturers: Raivo Kolde, Maarja Pajusalu



Maarja Pajusalu, MSc



Raivo Kolde Associate Professor of Health Informatics

1. Introduction

Napoleon's invasion of Russia mapped



ttps://datavizblog.files.wordpress.com/2013/05/map-full-size1.png

https://datavizblog.com/2013/05/26/dataviz-history-charles-minards-flow-map-of-napoleons-russian-campaign-of-1812-part-5/

Data visualisation

Data visualisation is an interdisciplinary field that deals with the graphic representation of data and information.

- Science accurately convey the data
- Art aesthetically pleasing

Must not mislead or distort

- + Makes the data easy to digest
- + Explore opportunities interactively (identify trends, patterns, outliers)
- + Image is easier to remember

- Biased or inaccurate information
- Correlations does not always mean causation
- Core messages can get lost in translation

2. Data type

Variable type: Amount

Total number of a particular item or subject

- · Quantitative/ numerical, discrete
- · Examples:
 - · Amount of money
 - · Website traffic received each hour of the day
 - · Sales for each product category
- · Common traits
 - · Values are non-negative
 - · Absolute values are important, not relative changes



Variable type: Distribution

- Represents the possible values of a variable and how often they occur
 - · Quantitative/ numerical, continuous
- · Examples:
 - · Ages of students in a school
 - · Income
 - Grades in a class



Practice

Which of the following is an amount?

- Number of employees in UT
- Temperature in degrees Celsius
- Daily temperature changes in degrees Celsius
- Duration of a movie in minutes
- Scores in a standardized test

Which of the following is a distribution?

- Pencil sales in September 2023
- Popular shoe sizes in a shop
- Traffic flow throughout the day
- Distance traveled in kilometers
- SARS-CoV-2 viral strains in Estonia over time



Correct answers

Which of the following is an amount?

Number of employees in UT
Temperature in degrees Celsius
Daily temperature changes in degrees Celsius
Duration of a movie in minutes
Scores in a standardized test

Which of the following is a distribution?

- Pencil sales in September 2023
- Popular shoe sizes in a shop
- Traffic flow throughout the day
 - Distance traveled in kilometers
- SARS-CoV-2 viral strains in Estonia over time



Variable type: Proportion

- A part or share of the whole data set,
 often expressed as a percentage or fraction
- Examples:
 - \cdot $\frac{1}{3}$ of market share
 - Gender ratio
 - Pass rate how many students passed/failed/never showed up

Variable type: Associations

- The relationship or correlation between two or more variables in a dataset
- Examples:
 - Body mass and energy demands
 - Education and income
 - Smoking and lung cancer

Variable type: Time series

- Time series: set of data points collected or recorded in a chronological order over a certain period of time
- Examples:
 - Stock prices
 - · Weather data
 - · Inflation rate

Practice

Which of the following is a proportion?

- □ The probability of rain or snow given as a percentage
- Days in a month when it was raining
- □ UT workers who have been given flu shots in 2023
- □ Ice creams sold during festival
- Customers who are satisfied with a service

Which of the following is a time series?

- □ Smartwatch measurements during exercise
- Daily hospital admission numbers
- Emails in a mailbox that are marked as spam
- □ Hourly electricity consumption
- Employment rate in a country



Correct answers

Which of the following is a proportion?



The probability of rain or snow given as a percentage Days in a month when it was raining UT workers who have been given flu shots in 2023 Ice creams sold during festival Customers who are satisfied with a service

Which of the following is a time series?

Smartwatch measurements during exercise Daily hospital admission numbers Emails in a mailbox that are marked as spam Hourly electricity consumption Employment rate in a country



Variable type: Geospatial

- Data that is associated with a specific geographical location or physical space.
- Examples:
 - \cdot Elevation
 - \cdot Postal codes
 - · Agricultural land use

Poll

What type of data do you need to visualise recently/ the most?

- · Amount
- Distribution
- · Proportion
- Association
- . Time series
- Geospatial



3. Telling a story

A picture is worth a thousand words

A **story** is a set of observations, facts, or events, true or invented, that are presented in a specific order such that they create an emotional reaction in the audience.

- Important role in our reasoning and memory
- The audience will a get a story anyways, whether we influence it or not
- Multiple visualisations
- Audience MUST UNDERSTAND the figures you are showing

Less is more.

Know your target publication

Research article figures:

- Classical shapes and symbols
- Mostly black-and-white

Report figures:

- Colorful
- Can play with style
- Classical shapes and symbols
- Gridlines

Presentation figures:

- Colorful
- Objects different than classical symbols
- White areas are good
- Highlight
- Can play more with visual aspect

examples from:

doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0131606 <u>https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/26135579/</u> <u>https://elixir-europe.org/sites/default/files/documents/annual-report-2022.pdf</u> page 53 <u>https://flowingdata.com/2023/10/24/data-on-net-worth-income-and-savings/</u>



Net worth by age of reference person



→ 35-44 - 45-54 ± 55-64 - 65-74 - 75 or older
 Source: Survey of Consumer

Know your target publication

Press visualisations

- Most playful
- Attractive and creative
- Object differ from classical symbols
- Background pictures
- Highlighting parts
- Concentration of information

examples: <u>https://flowingdata.com/2023/10/30/taylor-swift-earnings-visualized-</u> <u>with-bracelet-beads/</u> <u>https://bindersfullofburgers.tumblr.com/post/74961505700/amp</u>

Taylor Swift earnings visualized with bracelet beads

HOW SWIFT'S MILLIONS STACK UP

Earnings from touring, music sales and streaming plus real estate and her song catalog make up the bulk of her fortune





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Find out your target audience

- · Academics vs General Public
- · Age
- · Beginners or Advanced
- · Cultural differences
- · Language
- · Political background
- · Historical background



Figure out your focus

What is your main message?

Will help you choose the right graph.

4. Chart types

Chart types



Data type: Amounts

Amounts - numerical values that correspond to specific categories

- · Bar charts
- · Dot plots
- · Heatmap







What do you use AI chatbots for?

Example: Bar chart



Q: My supervisor/PI has provided clear guidelines on how they will support me to manage any changes in my ability to work.



https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-023-03235-8 https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-02548-2

Example: Stacked bar chart

Age group comparison of people involved in traffic accidents with electric scooter rider in 2022

Men colored in red Females yellow

Grey - unknown

https://ekspress.delfi.ee/artikkel/120170908/metsik-laas-saab-lopu-riigidtombavad-touksianarhiale-paitseid-pahe-ka-eesti-uljaspaid-ootavaduued-karmimad-seadused article (in estonian) Data source https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/transpordiamet/viz/ Kergliikuri_L/nnetusteldandmed



Example: Dot plot

IMDb ratings for The Simpsons



https://flowingdata.com/2023/05/02/ one-day-chart-challenge/

SOURCE: IMDb

Example: Heatmap

How Popular Is Your Birthday?

Two decades of American birthdays, averaged by month and day.



U.S. Average Daily Births: 1994-2014

http://thedailyviz.com/2016/09/17/how-common-is-your-birthday-dailyviz/

Limitations

Bar charts: need to start at 0; Dot plots don't need to



For large datasets, prefer heatmap!

Order data (if possible) for ease of understanding!
Chart types comparison for amounts

	Bar chart	Stacked bars	Grouped bars	Dot plots and heatmaps
Needs to start at 0				×
Quantitative amount varies with respect to one categorical variable		×	×	×
Quantitative amount varies with respect to 2+ categorical variables at the same time	×			
Sum of the amounts represented is in itself a meaningful amount	×		×	×
Individual bars represent counts		\checkmark	\checkmark	×
Need to pay attention to the ordering of the data values				

Proportions

To show how some group, entity, or amount breaks down into individual pieces that each represent a proportion of the whole

- · Pie chart
- Stacked bar chart
- · Bar chart







Example: Donut chart

Q: Do you believe you've lost a postdoc or post-postdoc job offer because of COVID-19?



Example: Stacked bars

Can you currently save/put money aside from your salary?



Does your overall salary/benefits package include the following?



Example: grouped bars



https://chartio.com/learn/charts/grouped-bar-chart-complete-guide/

Chart types comparison for proportions

	Pie chart	Stacked bar chart	Side-by-side bar chart
Visualizes the data as proportions of a whole			×
Comparison of the relative proportions	×	×	
Visually emphasizes simple fractions, such as 1/2, 1/4		×	×
Suitable for small datasets	\checkmark	×	
Comparing parts of a bigger set of data	×	×	\checkmark
Visualization of many sets of proportions or time series of proportions	×		×

Practice time

Practice 1



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study.

What chart would you choose to show:

- Number of different categories of books on the bookshelf
- Read/ unread % of each category of books on the bookshelf
- Compare books with prof Hardback and prof Bookmark
- Book ratings (given by professors; 1-10) by genres
- Book formats (Hardcover, Paperback, eBook, Audiobook)

Practice



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study.

What chart would you choose to show:

Number of different categories of books on the bookshelf

- Bar chart
- Stacked bar chart
- Pie chart
- Dot plot
- Heatmap

What would I do...



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study.

What chart would you choose to show:

Number of different categories of books on the bookshelf



bar chart

- pie chart if < = 5 categories
- stacked bar if < = 5 categories</p>

Examples

Sheet 1



Count of Title





Sheet 1

Why not ...?



Dot plots display distributions or frequency. Best for

continuous, not category

Heatmaps are typically used to represent complex data sets

that have multiple variables. We don't have any correlations to

show here

Practice



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study.

What chart would you choose to show:

Read/ unread % of each category of books on the bookshelf

- Bar chart
- Stacked bar chart
- Pie chart
- Dot plot
- Heatmap
- Histogram

What would I do...



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study.

What chart would you choose to show:

Read/ unread % of each category of books on the bookshelf

stacked bar chart - we are comparing % in each genre.

Example





Why not ...



Pie charts can be challenging for human eyes to compare across multiple categories.(will talk more about this later)

Dot plots are best suited for distribution or frequency of numerical data, not for comparing percentages across categories.

Using a **heatmap** to represent this data could be an overkill, meant for complex multivariate data

Histogram- We are not really looking at a distribution, but a breakdown of each category into two parts: read and unread.

Practice



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study.

What chart would you choose to show:

Compare books with prof Hardback and prof Bookmark

- Stacked bar chart
- Pie chart
- Grouped bar chart
- Heatmap
- Histogram

What would I do...



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study.

What chart would you choose to show:

Compare books with prof Hardback and prof Bookmark



Why not stacked bar chart?



Source: Maarten Lambrechts, CC BY SA 4.0

https://data.europa.eu/apps/data-visualisati on-guide/stacked-charts

Why not stacked bar chart?

90	100	90
97	97	97
93	90	93
100	93	100

Source: Maarten Lambrechts, CC BY SA 4.0

https://data.europa.eu/apps/data-visualisati on-guide/stacked-charts

If done in Excel, immediate graph...





Why not...



Pie chart is not ideal for comparing data across different groups

A **heatmap** is used for displaying complex multivariate data, typically to show correlations or intensity. Comparing the number of books between three professors does not require such complexity.

A **histogram** is used for showing the distribution of continuous numerical data, not for comparing categorical data across different groups. It wouldn't be useful in representing the data of different professors' book counts.

Practice



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study.

What chart would you choose to show:

Book ratings (given by professors; 1-10) by genres

- Bar chart
- Stacked bar chart
- Box plot
- Pie chart
- Dot plot
- Grouped bar chart

What would I do...



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study.

What chart would you choose to show:

Book ratings (given by professors; 1-10) by genres

- 🔽 Box plot
- Crouped bar chart if few professors

Example



Why not...



Bar chart and **Stacked bar** chart: These are better for showing counts or proportions, not distributions of scores.

Pie chart: This is not suitable as it's used for showing parts of a whole.

Dot plot: This could potentially work if each dot represented a book and was color-coded by genre, but it might be hard to interpret if there are many books.

Practice



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study.

What chart would you choose to show:

Book formats (Hardcover, Paperback, eBook, Audiobook) in total book collection

- Bar chart
- Stacked bar chart
- Box plot
- Pie chart
- Dot plot
- Histogram

What would I do...



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study.

What chart would you choose to show:

Book formats (Hardcover, Paperback, eBook, Audiobook) in total book collection









Bar chart

Example



Why not...



Box plot: A box plot is used for showing the distribution of numerical data, not categorical data like book formats.

Dot plot: A dot plot could work if each dot represented a book, but it would be harder to interpret if there are many books.

Histogram: A histogram is used for showing the distribution of continuous numerical data, not categorical data like book formats.

Data type: Distribution

Distributions - probability of a particular value or value range of a variable

- . Histogram
- Density plot
- · Box plot
- · Violin plot









Let's do this once more.

Which of the following is a distribution?

IQ scores

- □ Color of cars in a parking lot
- □ Age of population
- Heights of people
- Names of people in a city
- Student ID numbers
- Coin toss



Let's do this once more.

Which of the following is a distribution?

🔽 IQ scores

- X Color of cars in a parking lot
- Mage of population
- V Heights of people
- X Names of people in a city
- X Student ID numbers





Example: Histogram





https://www.data-to-viz.com/graph/histogram.html https://biit.cs.ut.ee/covid/#/rahvastik/kuu-jargi
Example: Density

Ages: 0 20 40 60 80+ Particularly_old Albania Austria Belarus Belgium Bosnia and Herzegovina Bulgaria Croatia Czech Rep. Denmark Estonia Finland France Germany Greece Hungary Ireland Italy Kosovo Latvia Lithuania Netherlands N. Macedonia

Europe



	Northern America				
Ages:	0	20	40	60	80+
Canada	Partic	ularly	old		
United States					

Northorn America

Australia and New Zealand

Ages:	0	20	40	60	80+
Australia					
Australia					
New Zealand					

Sub-Sandran Amea							
Ages:	0	20	40	60	80+		
Angola	Partic	ularly	young				
Benin							
Botswana				1			
Burkina Faso							
Burundi					-		
Cameroon							
Central African Rep.							
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Ghana							
Guinea							
Guinea- Bissau							

Sub-Saharan Africa

https://flowingdata.com/2023/ 07/17/age-shifts-aroundthe-world/

Example: box plot



https://plotly.com/python/box-plots/

Box plots and skewed data

Useful tool to identify skewness in your data.

Symmetric data: the median will be in the middle of the box and the whiskers (lines extending from the box) will be roughly equal in length.

Skewed data: the median will be offset towards one end of the box and one whisker will be longer than the other.



Box plot vs violin plot





https://towardsdatascience.com/violin-plots-explained-fb1d115e023d

Same data, different graph



https://deepnote.com/@econdesousa/ViolinPlotvsBoxPlot-aadf0c53-53b4-4221-89b9-4388c54c68bd

Pitfalls of box and violin plots

- Outliers can distort the representation of data.
- Sometimes people misinterpret the whiskers as the minimum and maximum values, which is not correct if there are outliers.
- If bandwidth parameter is not chosen carefully, the density plot can either smooth over or highlight random fluctuations in the data, leading to misinterpretations.
- Comparisons: They can be misleading when used to compare multiple distributions if the sample sizes are not equal. The box or the density in a violin plot does not indicate the size of the sample, so a wider shape does not necessarily mean a larger sample.
- Violin plots can be harder to read

Same data, different graph





https://github.com/zonination/perceptions

Same data, different graph



Almost Certainly Very Good Chance We Believe Likely About Even Little Chance Chances Are Slight Almost No Chance 25 50 0 75 100 Assigned Probability (%)

https://github.com/zonination/perceptions https://www.data-to-viz.com/graph/violin.html

How to choose



Chart types comparison for distributions

	Histogram	Density plot	Box plot	Violin plot
Visualizing a single distribution			\checkmark	
Visualizing multiple distributions at the same time	×			
Visualize the underlying probability distribution of the data	×			
Bandwidth parameters change chart looks			×	
Area under the curve equals one	×		×	
Tendency to produce the appearance of data where none exists, in particular in the tails	×		×	

Practice 2



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study. What chart would you choose to show:

- Distribution of book publication years
- · Distribution of book lengths per genre. Outliers?
- Distribution of book prices for the professor's books.

Practice

Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study. What chart would you choose to show:

Distribution of book publication years

- · Heatmap
- · Density plot
- · Histogram
- · Box plot
- · Bar plot
- · Violin plot



What would I do...



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study. What chart would you choose to show:

Distribution of book publication years

🔽 histogram

- · better suited for large data sets
- · ideal for continuous data
- group data into intervals simplifying. Patterns and trends more apparent
- shows easily when data is skewed

Example



Dot plot can become crowded and difficult to read



Why not...



A **heatmap** is typically used to show correlation or intensity across two variables, which doesn't apply to the distribution of a single variable like publication year.

A **density plot** could work as well, as it also shows the distribution of a continuous variable. However, histograms are generally easier to interpret because they show actual counts rather than density.

A **box plot** can be used to show the distribution of numerical data, but it focuses on quartiles and median, not the overall distribution. It won't show the frequency of books in each year.

A **bar plot** is used for categorical data.

A **violin plot** is similar to a box plot but with a rotated kernel density plot on each side. It is better suited for comparing distributions across different categories, which isn't the case here.

Practice

Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study. What chart would you choose to show: **Distribution of book lengths per genre. Outliers?**

- · Heatmap
- · Density plot
- · Histogram
- · Box plot
- · Bar plot
- · Violin plot



What would I do...



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study. What chart would you choose to show: **Distribution of book lengths per genre. Outliers?**

🔽 box plot

🔽 violin plot

Genre (written by readers)



Why not...



A **heatmap** is typically used to show correlation or intensity across two variables, which doesn't apply to the distribution of a single variable like book length per genre.

While a **density plot** shows the distribution of a continuous variable, it doesn't handle multiple categories (genres) as effectively as a box plot or violin plot.

A **histogram** shows the distribution of a single continuous variable. It's not as effective for comparing distributions across different categories (genres).

A **bar plot** is used for categorical data. It wouldn't effectively show the distribution of book lengths per genre, and it wouldn't highlight outliers.

Practice



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study. What chart would you choose to show: **Distribution of book prices for the professor's books.**

- · Heatmap
- · Histogram
- · Box plot
- · Bar plot
- · Density plot
- · Violin plot

What would I do...



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study. What chart would you choose to show: **Distribution of book prices for the professor's books.**

- Mistogram (price ranges)- best
- density plot
- ✓ box plot won't show the frequency of books at each price point



Price

Why not...



A **heatmap** is typically used to show correlation or intensity across two variables, which doesn't apply to the distribution of a single variable like book prices.

A **bar plot** is used for categorical data.

A **violin plot** is better suited for comparing distributions across different categories, which isn't the case here if we're just looking at Prof Booknose's book prices.



위

10 min break



Relationship between two quantitative variables

- · Scatterplot
- Correlogram
- Paired data





Col: Paired t test



https://support.minitab.com/en-us/minitab/21/help-and-how-to/graphs/correlogram/before-you-start/example/

Example: Scatterplot

Matt Damon Is Dreamy Whenever He Is Smart

"Smartness" vs. "dreaminess" based on probabilities that a character played by Matt Damon will beat an average Matt Damon in the category, from surveys of 3,435 respondents about the smartness of characters and 17,582 about the dreaminess



https://fivethirtyeight.com/features/matt-damon-the-martian-sexy-smart/

Example: paired data

Szkwara, Jaclyn & Milne, Nikki & Rathbone, Evelyne. (2020). A prospective quasi-experimental controlled study evaluating the use of dynamic elastomeric fabric orthoses to manage common postpartum ailments during postnatal care.

Women's Health. 16. 174550652092719. 10.1177/1745506520927196.



Chart types comparison for associations

variables

	Scatter plot	Bubble chart	Correlogram	Dimension reduction (PCA)
Plot the relationship of just two variables		×	×	×
Plot the relationship of 2+ variables	×	\checkmark		×
Plot very high-dimensional datasets	×	×	×	
Fairly abstract	×	×		×
Difficult to visually ascertain the strengths of associations between the various	×		×	×

Practice 3



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study. What chart would you choose to show:

- Book price and rating. Which books were worth buying?
- Book prices in different genres. Are genres priced differently?
- Book Genre Vs. Reading Time

Practice



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study.

What chart would you choose to show:

Book price and rating. Which books were worth buying?

- Box plot
- Density plot
- . Heatmap
- Scatter plot
- Bar plot
- Histogram

What would I do...



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study.

What chart would you choose to show:

Book price and rating. Which books were worth buying?





Sheet 1

Rating

Why not...



Box plot, Density plot, Histogram: These types of plots are typically used for showing the distribution of a single variable, not the relationship between two variables.

A **heatmap** could potentially be used if you discretize both price and rating into bins, but it might be less straightforward to interpret than a scatter plot.

A **bar plot** is used for categorical data and wouldn't effectively show the relationship between two continuous variables like price and rating

Practice



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study.

What chart would you choose to show:

Book prices in different genres. Are genres priced differently?

- Box plot
- Density plot
- Heatmap
- Scatter plot
- Bar plot
- Histogram

What would I do...



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study.

What chart would you choose to show:

Book prices in different genres. Are genres priced differently?




Price

Why not...



Density plot, Histogram: These types of plots are typically used for showing the distribution of a single variable, not the relationship between a categorical variable (genre) and a continuous variable (price).

A **heatmap** is typically used to show correlation or intensity across two variables, which doesn't apply to the distribution of a single variable like book prices across genres.

A **scatter plot** is typically used for showing the relationship between two continuous variables, not a categorical and a continuous variable like genre and price.

While a **bar plot** could be used to show the average price per genre, it wouldn't show the distribution within each genre like a box plot would.

Practice



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study.

What chart would you choose to show:

Book Genre Vs. Reading Time

- Box plot
- Density plot
- Heatmap
- Scatter plot
- Bar plot
- Histogram

What would I do...



Prof Booknose has a massive bookshelf in his study.

What chart would you choose to show:

Book Genre Vs. Reading Time





bar plot - average reading time only

Example normalised by page nr



Why not...



Density plot, Histogram: These types of plots are typically used for showing the distribution of a single variable, not the relationship between a categorical variable (genre) and a continuous variable (reading time).

A **heatmap** is typically used to show correlation or intensity across two variables, which doesn't apply to the distribution of a single variable like reading time across genres.

A **scatter plot** is typically used for showing the relationship between two continuous variables, not a categorical and a continuous variable like genre and reading time.

Data type: Time series

Time series: set of data points collected or recorded in a chronological order over a certain period of time

· Line graphs



Example: time series



https://www.wired.com/story/an-ominous-heating-event-is-unfolding-in-the-oceans/

Geospatial

Data that is associated with a specific geographical location or physical space.

- · Choropleth mapping
- · Cartograms







Töötavate ajutise kaitse saanud* ja teiste Ukraina kodanike arv ning osatähtsus kõigist hõivatutest** (%) töökoha maakonna kaupa, 17.09.2023 seisuga

EESTI

STATISTIKA

Hõivatud ukrainlaste arv Osatähtsus piirkonna hõivatutest (%)

Example: Choropleth

29 4042 12410

https://www.stat.ee/et/avasta-statistikat/ kiirstatistika/ukrainlased-eesti-tooturul

Allikas: <u>statistikaamet</u>

*Ajutist kaitset saavad taotleda sõja eest Eestisse põgenenud Ukraina kodanikud ja nende pereliikmed (nende seas on ka teiste riikide kodanikke). **Kogu tööturg hõlmab kõiki vaatlusmomendil töötamise registris olevaid inimesi (igaühele on leitud peamine töösuhe).

Example: Cartogram



https://contrarian.ca/2009/12/08/a-world-map-of-aids/

Chart Chooser



© 2020 Andrew V. Abela, Dr. Abela@ Extreme Presentation.com https://extremepresentation.typepad.com/blog/2006/09/choosing_a_good.html www.extremepresentation.com

Resource

What kind of data do you have? Pick the main type using the buttons below. Then let the decision tree guide you toward your graphic possibilities.

Numeric Categoric N	um & Cat Maps	Network	Time series
---------------------	---------------	---------	-------------



Which graph would you use for temperature change?





Temperatuur juuni alguses



B

Data Visualization and Storytelling (LTAT.02.008), Slide by Raivo Kolde A https://courses.cs.ut.ee/2023/dataviz/spring

Which graph would you use for sold ice cream count?





Data Visualization and Storytelling (LTAT.02.008), Slide by Raivo Kolde https://courses.cs.ut.ee/2023/dataviz/spring

Müüdud pulgajäätiste arv



B

Practice

https://100.datavizproject.com/

Same data, 100 data visualisations



3 questions:

- 1. Most informative graph
- 2. most confusing graph
- 3. visually striking and memorable graph

5. Common mistakes and best practices

Common mistake: Bar plot meadow



https://github.com/cxli233/FriendsDontLe tFriends C. Li. (2023). cxli233/FriendsDontLetFriends: FriendsDontLetFriends (v3) (Version v3). Zenodo. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7097522

This is horrendous. What am I looking at?

That's better. Reader's attention is more focused.

Common mistake: Bar chart doesn't start from 0

2. Kas käesoleva haiglaravi ajal anti Teile teada, kuhu ja kelle poole pöörduda, kui Teil tekkis oma hoolduse või ravi osas küsimusi või muresid?





Common mistakes: Bar chart

Problem: scale doesn't start from 0. Results are misleading

Solution: either make it start from 0 or switch to a different graph.

Example:

https://www.canva.com/design/DAFlx7uruoU/khBHFqkeehl9olmGygtN6Q/ watch?utm_content=DAFlx7uruoU&utm_campaign=designshare& utm_medium=link&utm_source=publishsharelink



Best practice: Bar chart

- Values starts from 0
- Horizontal VS vertical bar chart
 - 5-7 columns vertical bar chart
 - Over 7 columns horizontal bar chart
- Order the columns if possible



Common mistakes: Bar chart

Problem: Too many letters in labels.

Solution: Rotate the labels. Solution: Swap for horizontal bars.





Common mistakes: Bar chart

Problem: Order of the bars is messy (due to programs liking to order them by alphabet).

Solution: Arrange in order of size

NB! Be careful with data that has natural order! No size arranging! Example: Months in a year





https://github.com /cxli233/FriendsDo ntLetFriends C. Li. (2023). cxli233/FriendsDo ntLetFriends: FriendsDontLetFri ends. Zenodo. https://doi.org/10.5 281/zenodo.709752 2

Common mistakes: Bar chart

Problem: Adding another variable might complicate the readability of the plot

Solution: switch which variable is shown with color.

Solution: just make separate graphs



Common mistakes: Bar chart

Problem: Adding another variable might complicate the readability of the plot

Solution: Use stacked bar chart

(sum of the amounts represented by the individual stacked bars is in itself a meaningful amount,when the individual bars represent counts)



Common mistake: broken axis wrong place

550 520 500 500 500 500 480 450 450 460 450 400-> > 50 50 40 40 30 30 30 30 20 20 20 20 10 0 10 10 0 d b е b d а С С е а х х

https://github.com/cxli233/FriendsDontLetFriends C. Li. (2023). cxli233/FriendsDontLetFriends: FriendsDontLetFriends. Zenodo. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7097522

Common mistakes: Dot plot

Problem: overplotting

Solutions:

- 1. Decrease dot size
- 2. Transparency
- 3. Plot a fraction of your data
- 4. Grouping
 5. Faceting
 6. Jittering









Common mistake: Heatmap without reordering



Am I looking at a glitching TV?





https://github.com/cxli233/FriendsDontLetFriends C. Li. (2023). cxli233/FriendsDontLetFriends: FriendsDontLetFriends. Zenodo. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7097522



Common mistake: Heatmap and outliers



https://github.com/cxli233/FriendsDontLetFriends C. Li. (2023). cxli233/FriendsDontLetFriends: FriendsDontLetFriends. Zenodo. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7097522

Best practices: heatmap

Normalize your data

 Use cluster analysis and thus permute the rows and the columns of the matrix to place similar values near each other according to the clustering

Color palette is important

choose one from here https://coolors.co/

Common mistake: confusing bar chart and histograms

A barchart shows the relationship between a numeric and a categoric variable.

Each entity of the categoric variable is represented as a bar.

The size of the bar represents its numeric value.

A histogram has only a numeric variable as input and shows its distribution.

Best practices: Histograms and Density plots

- Values start from 0
- Choose an appropriate number of bins
- equal number of data points in each bin and no outliers; if not use box plot
- Choose the algorithm that fits your data
- DO NOT USE unequal bin widths
- Don't compare more than ~3 groups in the same histogram.

The graphic gets cluttered and difficult to understand. Instead use a violin plot, a boxplot, a ridgeline plot or use multiple small ones.





Common mistakes: Histograms and Density plots

PROBLEM:

The default bin "width" does not represent data appropriately

SOLUTION:

 Test many different bin widths for new insights







Best practice: Line graph

- If necessary, cut the Y axis
- Mind the spaghetti chart: too many lines make the chart unreadable.





https://www.data-to-viz.com/graph/line.html

Common mistakes: line graph

Problem: y-axis is not labeled and there are no units.

Problem: Companies legend should be in the same order as trendlines (Tesla should be first).



Stock price over time for four major tech companies and Bitcoin. The price has been normalized to equal 100 in May 2018. Data source: Yahoo Finance
Common mistakes: line graph

Problem: overlabeling.

It's clear that we are dealing with years, no need to add "time(years AD)".

Same goes for companies. Companies legend should be in the same order as trendlines (Tesla should be first).



Stock price over time for four major tech companies and Bitcoin. The price has been normalized to equal 100 in May 2018. Data source: Yahoo Finance

Best practice: choropleth

Normalize your variable: you cannot compare raw numbers between regions of distinct size or population.

Take care when choosing the continuous color palette.

- Don't forget the legend.
- If your regions have a broad range of sizes it introduces a bias. You could consider using hexbin maps instead.
- Don't call it chLoropleth map.



Common mistakes: cartogram

Distorts real boundaries and thus makes the map harder to identify.

 Be careful not to confuse your audience: you need to introduce it with good explanations and showing the initial map is probably a good practice.



Best practice: Pie charts

- Don't use more than five sections
- Avoid comparing one pie to another
- Place the largest slice to the top right

corner, and then go by size order

• Don't use 3D pie



2.12.2014 - 13.11.2022

https://www.raamatukogud.ee/#





Poll

Which of the slices is the biggest?



Common mistakes: **Pie charts**

PROBLEM: Humans are pretty bad at reading angles

Solution: Use bar chart

only use pie chart for simple fractions! 1/2; 1/3; 1/4





5

0

Common mistakes: pie chart

Significant difference

between the three pie

plots with a hidden

pattern that you definitely

don't want to miss when you tell your story











JUDE



Pie chart: Real life example





Common mistake: Violin plot for small sample size



Best practices: Violin plot

- If you compare groups with very different sample size, show it.
- Ordering groups by median value makes the chart more insightful.
- If you have just a few groups, you are probably interested by ridgeline charts.

Common mistakes: uninformative graph



Figures belonging together

Be consistent but not repetitive.

Figures belonging together should look similar, but not exactly the same.

Mix up different chart types, but use similar layout, types, color choices.



Example

Kitsede statistika



https://www.pria.ee/info keskus/statistika/loomad #kitsede-statistika

What would you change?

Combo stacked area chart

and stacked bar chart on

the top and bottom to show

increased cost of billion

dollar disasters and the

counts over time.



https://flowingdata.com/2023/10/03/billion-dollar-natural-disasters/

15

Note: Estimated cost of damage is 2023 CPI-adjusted Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

6. Figure design

What is the first thing you notice when seeing this figure?



What is the first thing you notice when seeing this figure?



Figure design

Reading charts

- Reading a picture ≠ reading a text
- Depends a lot on colors picked, highlights, additional features

Data VS context:

- Elements that represent the **data**
 - Points in scatter plot
 - Bars in histogram or bar chart
 - · Shaded areas in heat map
- Elements that do not represent data **non-data ink**
 - · Axis and it's labels and titles
 - \cdot Legends
 - Plot annotations

Data-ink ratio

Maximise the data-ink ratio - remove the clutter and strive for

a clean and elegant design.



Font

Font choices

- 2-3 fonts maximum (title, comments, subheaders)
- Make certain fonts match well
- Size: 8-20 points

https://design.tutsplus.com/articles/15-best-fonts-to-pair-with-times-new-roman--cms-42083

Title

Accurately convey a reader what the figure is about

- Title as a caption block underneath the figure
 - Books
 - Articles
- Title in the display (on top of the figure, without caption text)
 - Infographics
 - Social media
 - Web page

Title should NEVER be omitted. The first part of the caption is ALWAYS the title, not a description of the contents of the figure.

Title size

Make it bigger

Computer monitor lies



Axis and legend

Explain what the displayed data values are and how they map to plot aesthetics

Numerical variables

- State variables shown
- Add units of measurements

Categorical variables

No need to add units

EXCEPTION:

Labels are fully explanatory





Legend

- If there is a clear visual order in your data, match the legend with it
- If possible, design your figure so that it does not need a legend
 - Direct labeling
- Multiple chart figure
 - Single legend that covers all the charts



Grids

Positives

- Helps the plot to be perceived as a single visual entity
- Prevents the plot to appear as a white box in surrounding dark text

Negatives

- White-on-gray background grid isn't attractive
- The gray background can detract from the actual data
- Grid with major and minor lines can be too dense
- Gray squares in the legend confusing



Lines in drawings

No lines to the shapes

- Perceived as one object
- Clearer indication of the size
 - Histogram and bar plots
 - Symbols in dot plots
 - Pleasant to look at





EXCEPTION:

· Boxplots



3D charts

Just don't do it! The projection of a 3D objects into two dimensions always distorts the data.





Example: Blue slice is 25% in every graph

3D charts

Exceptions:

- Interactive visualisations
- VR or augmented reality environment
- Non-interactive, but showing it rotating
- Data mapped onto 3D things
 - Maps
 - Protein structure

https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/charts-diagrams-graphs-modern-isometric-3dflat-style-infographic-presentation-design-data-finance_10700767.htm https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/3d-business-diagram-template-with-text-fieldsmarked-by-different-colors-chart_11408197.htm Image by macrovector on Freepik







7. Colors

Color choices

To enhance the figure and make it easier to read.

- 3-5 categories of data qualitative color scales
- More categories use direct labeling, matching colors becomes laborious
- Help! Hard to choose colors?
 - <u>https://coolors.co/</u>
 - <u>https://www.heavy.ai/blog/12-color-palettes-for-telling-better-</u> <u>stories-with-your-data</u>

Common mistakes: Color choices

- Saturated and intense colors hard to look at
- Using default color choices usually doesn't work well
 - Rainbow red-to-red
 - Scale ends needs to have maximum differences
 - Regions where colors change slowly VS rapidly



https://www.heavy.ai/blog/12-color-palettes-for-telling-better-stories-with-your-data

Common mistake: color blind unfriendliness

Deuteranomaly is the most common type of red/green colorblindness, occurring in 1/16 male and 1/256 female.

https://github.com/cxli233/FriendsDontLetFriends C. Li. (2023). cxli233/FriendsDontLetFriends: FriendsDontLetFriends. Zenodo. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7097522



Color scales: Qualitative

Distinguishing discrete items or groups that do not have intrinsic order (countries on a map)

- Finite number of colors that are similar but distinct from each other.
- No color should specifically stand out from others.
- Colors should not create an apparent order.

["#fd7f6f", "#7eb0d5", "#b2e061", "#bd7ebe", "#ffb55a", "#ffee65", "#beb9db", "#fdcce5", "#8bd3c7"] https://www.heavy.ai/blog/12-color-palettes-for-telli ng-better-stories-with-your-data



Qualitative color blind friendly

Tool: https://davidmathlogic.com/colorblind/#%23D81B60 -%231E88E5-%23FFC107-%23004D40 play around to see how different color blindness affects what we see





https://colorbrewer2.org/

Color scales: Sequential

Representing data values

Scale of color clearly indicates order in the values of the data or how two specific values differ from each other.

Use single hue (dark blue to light blue) or multi hue scales (gradient should be seen in natural world, dark red to light yellow).



["#d7e1ee", "#cbd6e4", "#bfcbdb", "#b3bfd1", "#a4a2a8", "#df8879", "#c86558", "#b04238", "#991f17"]

https://www.heavy.ai/blog/12-color-palettes-for-telling-better-stories-with-your-data

https://koroonakaart.ee/et




Color scales: Sequential color-blind friendly

sequential scale should present a continuous gradient from dark to light colors and should pose no problems.



Color scales: Diverging

Two sequential scales stitched together at a common midpoint, which usually is represented by a light color.

Needs to be balanced.



tter-stories-with-your-data





Common mistake: Diverging scale for unidirectional data

https://github.com/cxli233/FriendsDontLetFriends C. Li. (2023). cxli233/FriendsDontLetFriends: FriendsDontLetFriends (v3) (Version v3). Zenodo. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7097522



Color scales: Diverging color blind friendly

Slightly problematic, popular color contrasts can become indistinguishable (green and red).



https://colorbrewer2.org/

Improving the visual design of the figure

Color is easier to distinguish when applies to

larger areas than to small ones or thin lines.



8. Outro

Tableau public visualisations

- <u>https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/tervise.arengu.instituut/viz/Snnid/Sisu</u> <u>kord</u> Birth statistics in Estonia by National Institute for Health Development
- https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/tervise.arengu.instituut/viz/Imikuterin napiimagatoitmine/Imikuterinnapiimagatoitmine Institute for Health Development
- <u>https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/transpordiamet/viz/Kergliikuri_L/nnet</u> <u>usteldandmed</u> traffic accidents with electric scooter rider by Estonian Transport Administration

Tools for visualisation

Logo	Name	Free plan	Premium plans user/ month	Notes	need to code?
Microsoft Power BI	Microsoft Power BI	+	10\$- 20\$	Slow with big data. Integrated with other Microsoft products. User friendly UI.	no
+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++	Tableau	+	75\$	Public is free but data will be public too. Apply for Tableau plans for student, teacher or data kids to get it for free (time limited). Higher learning curve. Exceptional visualisation options	only for very specific details
X	Microsoft Excel	-	5,60\$-20,60\$	Trial version is available. Easy to learn.	no
RStudio	RStudio	+	87\$	ggplot2 package is free and designed for data visualisation. Popular among scientists. Can handle large datasets. Reproducible. Exceptional visualisation options	always

Take away message

- Figure out your data type
- Keep in mind your publication venue and audience
- Think of your main message
- Choose the right graph (using slides, flowchart guide or https://www.data-to-viz.com/)
- Avoid common mistakes
- Use best practices
- Focus on the important maximise data-ink ratio

Take away message

- Bar chart starts at 0
- Order the variables if possible
- No more than 5 sections for vertical bar or pie charts
- Use consistent visual language
 - 1-2 fonts (similar type)
 - Make titles always bigger
 - Colors easy on the eye and compliment each other
 - Pay attention to color blindness!
 - Play with line thickness
 - If there is clear visual order in your data, match the legend with it

Feedback

https://forms.gle/wife8FUssCBPtD6L6

Reference

Materials based on Claus O. Wilke. (2019). Fundamentals of Data Visualization. O'Reilly Media, 319 p. (NB! Draft is freely available at https://serialmentor.com/dataviz/)

O'REILLY°

Fundamentals of Data Visualization

A Primer on Making Informative and Compelling Figures



Claus O. Wilke

Resources

 White, T. (2017). Symbolization and the Visual Variables. The Geographic Information Science & Technology Body of Knowledge (2nd Quarter 2017 Edition), John P. Wilson (ed.).

DOI: 10.22224/gistbok/2017.2.3 <u>http://dx.doi.org/10.22224/gistbok/2017.2.3</u>

- https://www.data-to-viz.com/ wonderful resource for choosing the right graph
- https://www.storytellingwithdata.com/chart-guide
 - and the book <u>https://github.com/Saurav6789/Books-/blob/master/storytelling-with-data-cole-nuss</u> <u>baumer-knaflic.pdf</u>
- Data Visualisation A Comprehensive Guide to Unlocking Your Data's Potential
 - <u>https://data.europa.eu/apps/data-visualisation-guide/</u>

References

General information about data visualisation

- Using Design Techniques for Clear and Appealing Data Visualisation by nullQueries https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Smgm2UTUSo
- How To Choose The Right Graph by UNDATABLE https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o7F-tbBl_hA
- How To Use COLOR in Your Data Visualisation by UNDATABLE https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v5brQ4WTImQ
- Data Visualisation in 2022 by Visme https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=loYuxWSsLNc
- Which is the best Chart by 365 Data Science https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C07k0euBpr8
- Five Data Storytelling Tips to Improve Your Charts and Graphs by VIsme https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4pymfPHQ6SA 194

References

- <u>https://datavizproject.com/</u>
- <u>https://100.datavizproject.com/</u>

Color

- Color Contrast Checker <u>https://coolors.co/contrast-checker/112a46-acc8e5</u>
- Color Palette Generator <u>https://coolors.co/</u>
- Color Scheme Designer
 <u>https://paletton.com/#uid=1000u0kIIIIaFw0g0qFqFg0w0aF</u>
- <u>https://color.adobe.com/create/color-contrast-analyzer</u> color blind safe tool here

Photo resources

 <u>https://www.freepik.com/free-photo/digital-graph-with</u> <u>-businessman-hand-overlay_15474099.htm</u> title slide
 <u>https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/white-elegant-tex</u> <u>ture-background-design_6764485.htm</u> slide background

Thank you for listening!

