Visualization Guidelines

9 responses

Which visualization guidelines or advice have you found useful during the course and afterward in your work and studies? please name them.

9 responses

I found all the guidelines regarding color patterns and combinations the most interesting. It's hard to say if they were the most useful as well since I didn't have that many chances yet to really design visualizations.

The introduction to how humans perceive things. Where very useful in my opinion. Gestalt Laws, How color blind see, etc. Also the overview on the different types of visualizations and their pro- and contra are helpful. Of course I don't know they be hard anymore, but I know where too look them up. And that they exist ;). Also the different sites to get the guidelines are helpful. Like the visguide you did, but also the other sites you mentioned (like the vis reddit) are helpful as source.

Since I read the book and recommended chapters, I gained a lot of knowledge on human processing and the visualization pipeline and types. Everything was useful, especially geographic and map visualizations, as well as color hues and the homework done.

I especially enjoyed learning about the Gestalt Laws and Bertin's visual variables, as well as Tufte's guidelines to avoid chartjunk.
How do they help you in the understanding of visualizations or in visual design?

9 responses

They helped me to make more conscious decisions in design choices. Funnily enough, most of the time, I would have made the same choice based on intuition but with the help of the guidelines I was able to verbalize why I made those choices.

I don't do a lot of data visualization right now (like graphs, statistics, etc.), but the theories help to, by doing my websites (for my work), since I can rethink some design choices with the laws learned in your course.

They help me to overthink my visualization decisions, make them as clear as possible to users, and generally approach design more professionally.

They help me in carefully choosing appropriate means of visualization (e.g. color or shape) in order to avoid wrong associations created by the visualization which are not present in the data itself.

The colors, for example, should quickly indicate what is important and what is stronger or weaker on a visualization.
How applicable do you find them in future scenarios where you need to use visualizations?

9 responses

Option 1

The things I can remember, I find pretty useful :). Of course I have them not as present, as I had on the exam. But I can look them up online, on the guideline sites, and know about them.

I find them very useful for creating my own visualizations.

I use them for all my visualizations, since they give very clean visualizations that are easy to understand. I have used them recently in a reporting tool (automatic reporting of podcast performance) through matplotlib.

I'm really looking forward to use the principles (and also some tools I learned) for presentations.

Very applicable, since you need them in many visualizations

I find it very applicable. since it gave me a systematic approach to designing a

If you have any further feedback, please let us know.

4 responses

The third question in that questionnaire seems to be not working since I only have one option names "Option 1" to choose from.

Its a minor thing, but I got annoyed by the slide updates, since I did my notes direct into the pdf, I ended up with "split" notes that I had to switch fore and back while learning. Also the order was sometimes off.

The course was great, as well as the lecturer, which is very friendly and forthcoming.

I would try to cut some back on some details (in one or two topics of: perception, dim reduction, geospecial data/maps, color systems) and instead have a 5 min segment every week presenting an exceptionally well designed visualization. (since exposure really was one of my main benefits).