

Getting started with secondary data analysis:

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Introduction to analysing data about crime using R Manchester 4-5 February 2020



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Data and Crime

- Jack Maple and the "Charts of the Future"
- Steve Talley: How facial recognition can ruin your life
- Paul Zilly: Human versus Machine











Q1 USA Bank Lobby Camera Image

Jack Maple: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jack Maple

Steve Talley: https://theintercept.com/2016/10/13/how-a-facial-recognition-mismatch-can-

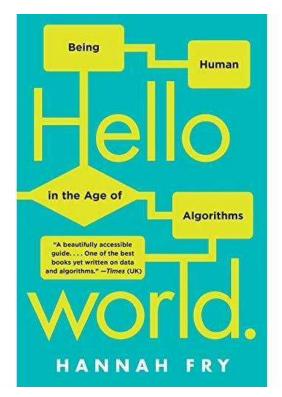
ruin-your-life/

Paul Zilly: https://www.sciencefocus.com/future-technology/can-an-algorithm-deliver-



More about Data and Crime

Chapter Justice Chapter Crime





Twitter: @FryRsquared

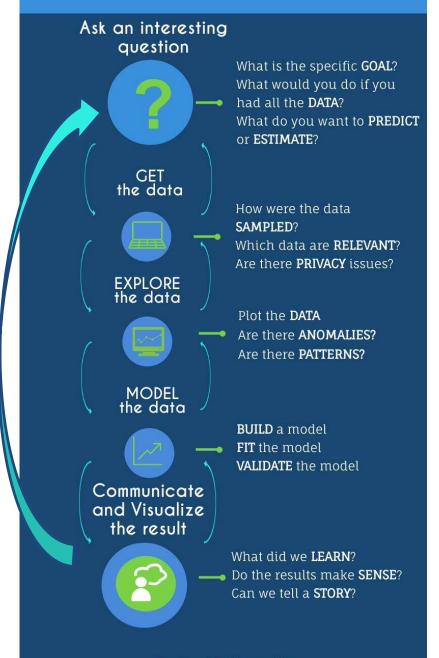


What is Research?

Adding a contribution to an existing body of knowledge



THE DATA SCIENCE PROCESS





The data Science process (1): Ask an interesting question

Ask an interesting question What is the specific GOAL? What would you do if you had all the DATA? What do you want to PREDICT or ESTIMATE?

✓ A topic of interest:

- > Crime
- ➤ Health inequalities
- ➤ Pollution

√ Specific goal

- Confidence in the Criminal Justice System in England
- Antisocial behaviour in Manchester

✓ What do you want to predict or estimate?

- National level estimates
- Local level indicators
- CJS as a whole or concentrate on Police, prisons, Sentencing?





The data Science process (2): Get the data



- ✓ Police recorded crime data
- ✓ CSEW: For England and Wales
- ✓ Scottish Crime Survey
- ✓ European Social Survey
- ✓ Others:
 - ➤ Administrative data of prisons
 - Administrative data sentencing council



The data Science process (2): Get the data



✓ Police recorded crime data:

- ✓ CSEW UK Data Service
- > Coverage
 - Date range
 - Spatial units

> What data

- Available for surveys
- Open data may not have any

> Format

- Depending on the source.
 UKDS: Stata, SPSS,
- Excel
- Text

Crime Survey for England and Wales 2017-2018



Coverage and methodology

Weighting:

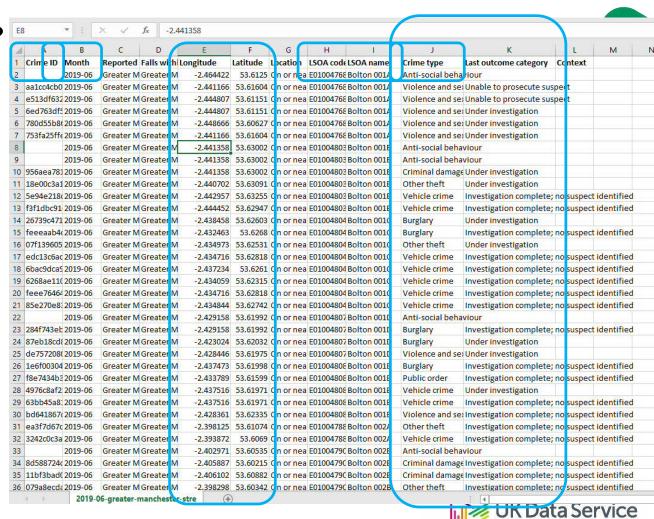
Time period:	The survey covers experiences of crime in the 12 months prior to interview	v.
Dates of fieldwork:	1 April 2017 - 31 March 2018	
Country:	England and Wales	
Spatial units:	Police Force Areas Government Office Regions	
Observation units:	Individuals	
Observation unit location:	National	
Population:	Adults aged 16 and over in private households in England and Wales, and children aged 10-15 years resident in the same households, during 2017-2018.	
Number of units:	Adults: 34,715 cases. Children: 3,008 cases.	
Method of data collection:	Self-completion Face-to-face interview: Computer-assisted (CAPI/CAMI)	
Time dimensions:	Repeated cross-sectional study	
Sampling procedures:	Multi-stage stratified random sample	(Data Service
Kind of data:	Numeric	C Data Sci Vicc

Weighting used. See documentation for details

The data Science process (3a): Explore the data



- ✓ What data do we have?
 - Variables (name some variables)
 - > Type of data
 - Numeric?
 - Attribute (character)
 - ➤ Is it ready to analyse?
 - Data cleaning
 - Manipulation



The data Science process (3b): Explore the data



- ✓ What data do we have?
 - > Variables

(name some variables)

- > Type of data
 - Numeric?
 - Attribute (character)
- ➤ Is it ready to analyse?
 - Data cleaning
 - Manipulation

✓ Descriptive statistics

- > Central tendency measures
 - Any correlations?
 - Anomalies?

> Plot the data

- Anomalies?
- Patterns?

➤ More questions

- Are the data enough for my RQ?
- Do we need more data?
- Is there more data?
- Change RQs?



The data Science process (4): Model the data



- ✓ What is the best approach to understand the data we have?
 - ➤ Depends on...
 - Our research questions
 - Our data available

> Example:

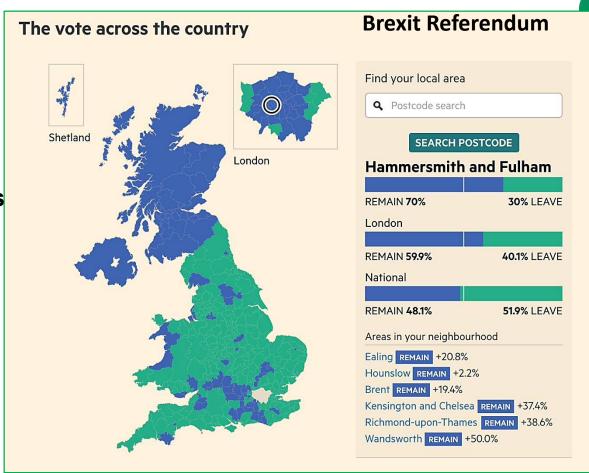
- > Correlation to look for association of two variables
- > Generalised Linear models /Regression based models for
 - ➤ Multiple linear regression (continuous outcome)
 - ➤ Logistic/Probit regression (binary outcome)
 - ➤ Ordinal regresions
 - ➤ Multilevel models (clusters and hierarchy dependence)
 - Longitudinal models (samples at different time points)



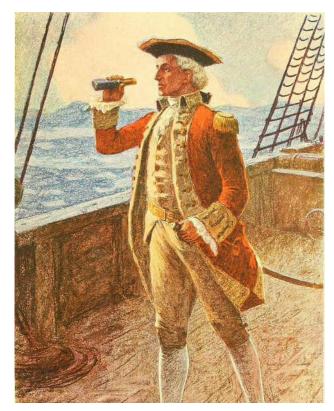
The data Science process (5): Communicate and visualise the results



- √ Visualise the results
 - > Tables
 - > Figures
 - > Plots
 - > Maps
- ✓ Communicate the results
 - > Know your audience
 - Effective
 - The right details for each audience
 - Academic ≠ Local Government officers





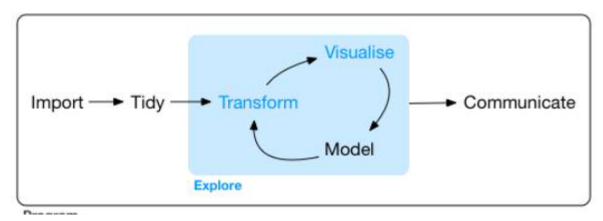


Exploratory Data Analysis



Exploratory data analysis

Flowchart for data preparation



From R for data science



What is data?

- Information, especially facts or numbers, collected to be examined and considered and used to help decision-making, or information in an electronic form that can be stored and used by a computer (Cambridge dictionary)
 - Numeric
 - Images
 - Attributes (characters)

















Describe the data

✓ To Understand:

- data availability,
- ➤ Types,
- quality,
- data complexity (i.e. nonlinearity, requires transformation, etc)

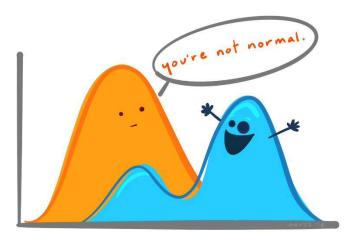
- ✓ Guided by two types of questions (Grolemund and Wickham, 2016):
 - ➤ What type of covariation occurs between my variables?
 - ➤ What type of variation occurs within my variables?



How to describe the data (1)

✓ Distribution of numerical variables:

- > Extreme values (outliers)
- ➤ Shape of the distribution
- Missing cases
- Unusual patterns



✓ Distribution of categorical variables

- Missing cases
- Odd values
- Unusual patterns
- Most common values



Figure: © Allison Horst

How to describe the data (2)

✓ Central tendency measures

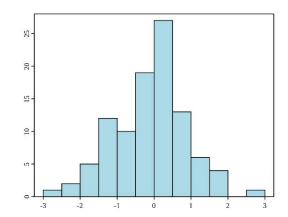
- Mean
- median
- > mode

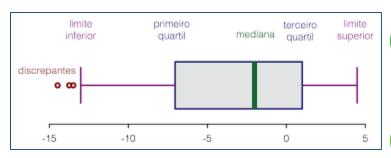
✓ Measures of spread

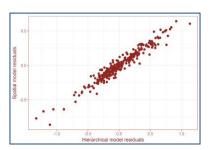
- Variance and standard deviation
- > Range:
 - ➤ Interquartile range (IQR)

✓ Visualisations

Histograms, boxplots, bar plots, scatterplots









How to describe the data (3)

- ✓ Mean (sample vs. population): $\mu = \frac{\sum x}{N}$
 - The "average" number; found by adding all data points and dividing by the number of data points
- ✓ Median
 - Middle value if odd number of values, or average of the middle two values otherwise
- ✓ Mode
 - Value that occurs most frequently in the data
 - Unimodal, bimodal, trimodal

Is the mean always the best central tendency measure?



The problem with the mean



"There are two pieces of bread. You eat two. I eat none. Average consumption: one bread per person."

Nicanor Parra, (Anti)Poet, Mathematician and Physicist



More about visualisations

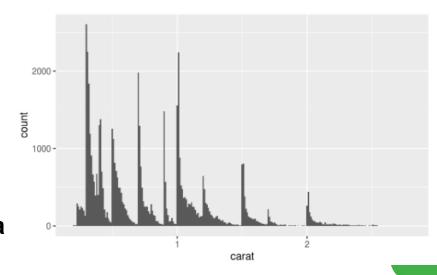
Two types:

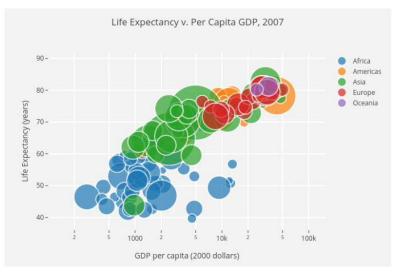
1. Exploring and getting to know the data

- 1. Assess the data: decide what to do next
- 2. Accurate
- 3. Internal, never reach the wider audience

2. Communication

- 1. Present data and ideas
- 2. Accurate: provide evidence
- 3. Easy to understand
- 4. Effective
- 5. It would depend on the audience







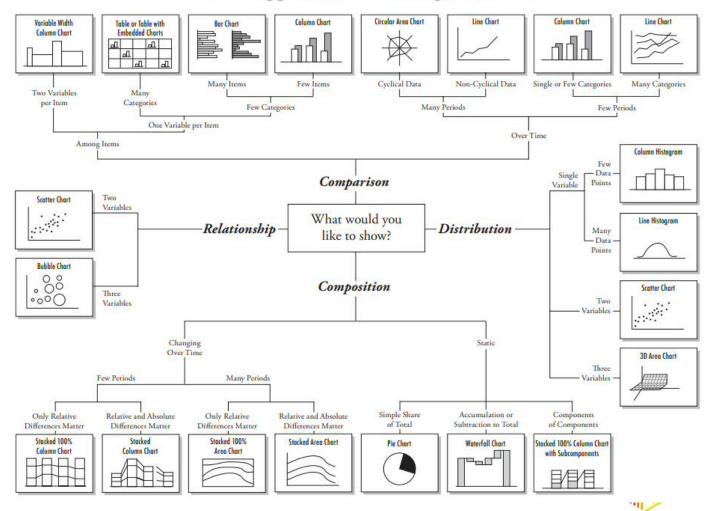
Effective visualisations for communication

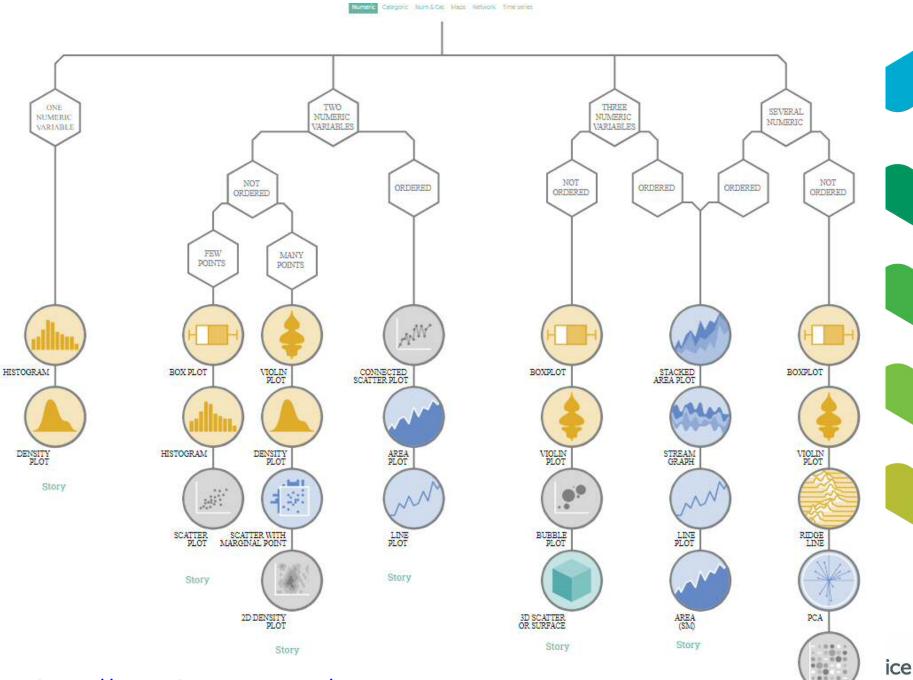
- ✓ Simple but effective (don't over do it!)
 - ✓ Easy to understand
- ✓ Use the right type of graph of figure
 - ✓ Not a fit them all purpose graph
- ✓ Appropriate use of colours (colour blind people)
- ✓ Know your audience



Effective visualisations for communication

Chart Suggestions—A Thought-Starter





https://www.data-to-viz.com/

Effective visualisations for communication: Use the right display

- ✓ Comparisons:
 - > Bars
 - > lines
- ✓ Proportions
 - ➤ Pie charts
 - > Stacked charts

- ✓ Trends over time
 - ➤ Lines
 - > Scatterplots
- ✓ Distributions
 - ➤ Density plots
 - ➤ Histograms
- ✓ Correlations
 - ➤ Scatterplots



Your turn



Questions

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