Smoking, Stephen Jay Gould and Convertibles:
Statistical Graphics for Data Presentation and Analysis

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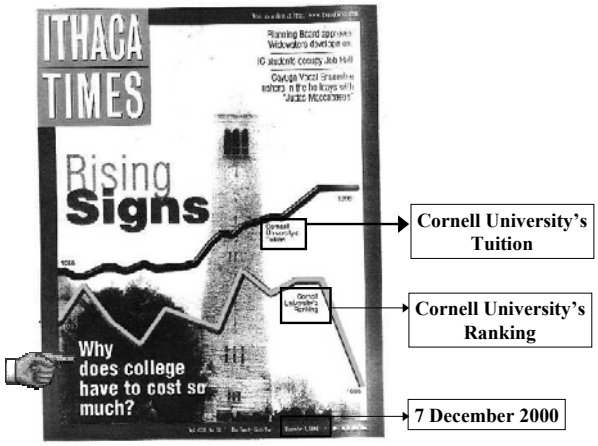
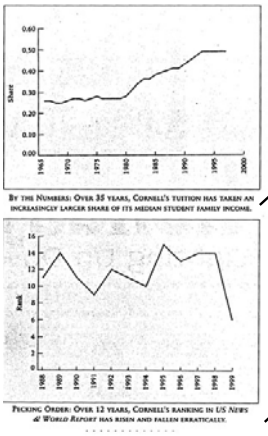
January 25, 2002





By the Numbers:

Over 35 years, Cornell's Tuition has taken an increasingly larger share of its median student family income.

Pecking Order:

Over 12 years, Cornell's ranking in US News & World Report has risen and fallen erratically.

Outline

- Philosophy
- Aim of good graphics
- "Plotting" – smoking and Y-Y
- Good advice and MLB finances
- S. J. Gould and "Goosing"
- Showing Balance
- Some Bad Ideas
- Some Good Ideas
  - Transformations
  - Graphical arrays

Make the data stand out. Avoid clutter.

Data Analysis is like Doing Experiments

- Discovery is usually more exciting and important than confirmation.
- Interaction, feedback, and trial and error are all critically important.
- Better to start trying to obtain and explain specific findings rather than figure everything out at once.
- Insight more important than objectivity.

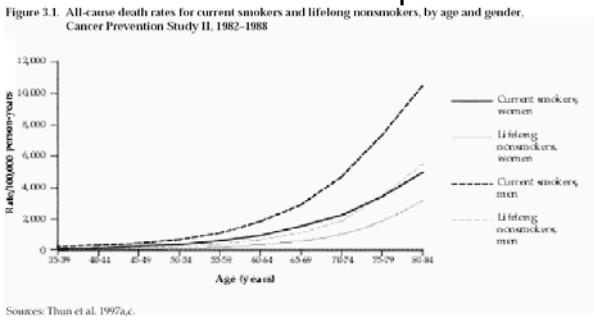
Aim of Good Data Graphics

- The aim of good data graphics is to display data accurately and clearly.
- A good graph is quiet and lets the data tell their story clearly and completely.
- Graphs are best when they "force us to see what we never expected."

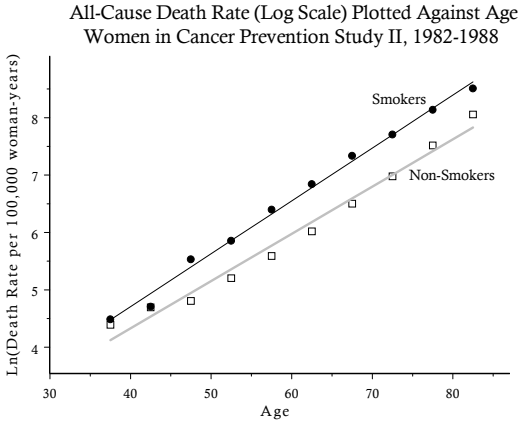
Smoking, Women and "Plots"

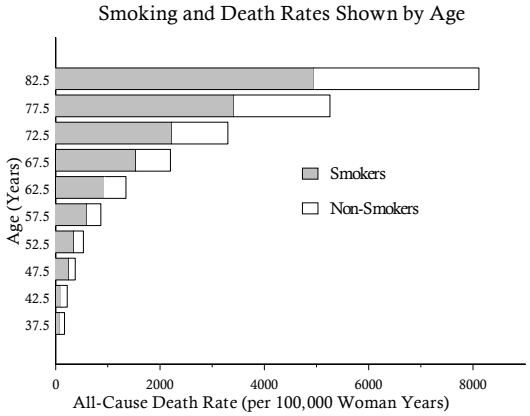
Thanks to Howard Wainer and the CDC web site

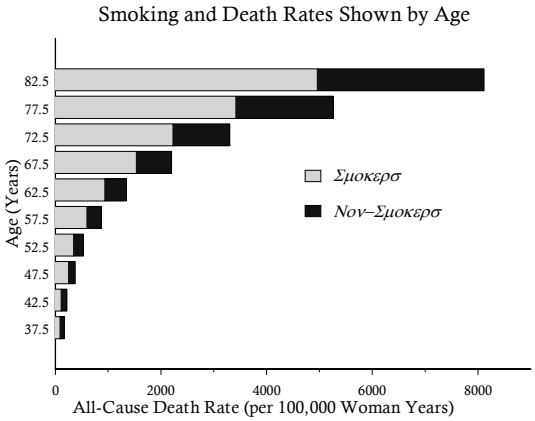
Visual clarity must be preserved under reduction and reproduction



www.cdc.gov/tobacco/sgr/sgr_forwomen/pdfs/chp3.pdf







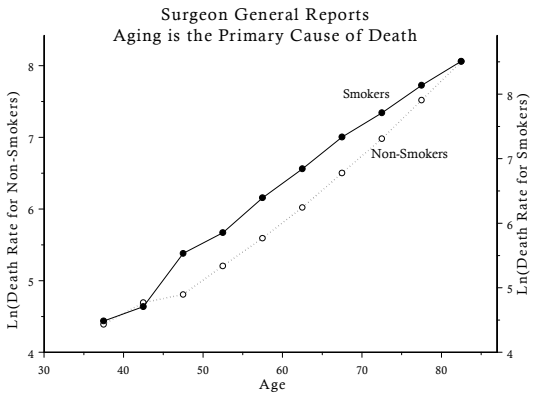


Figure 1: Expenditures vs. SAT Scores

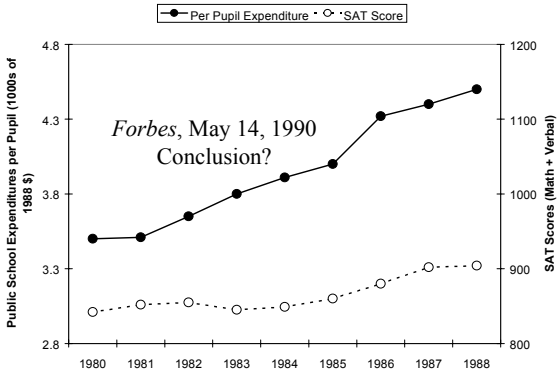


Figure 2: SAT Scores and funds for education rise together

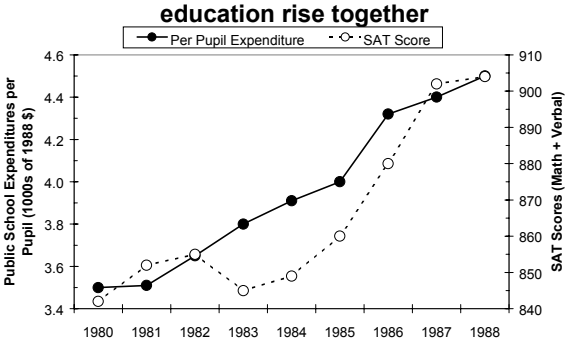
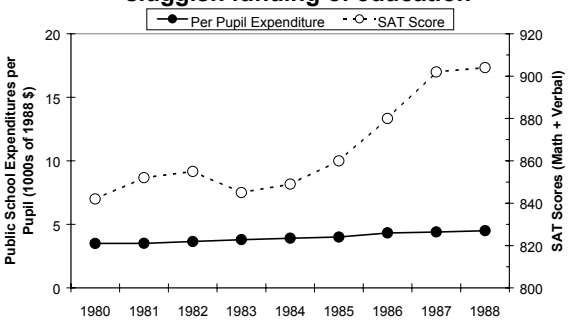


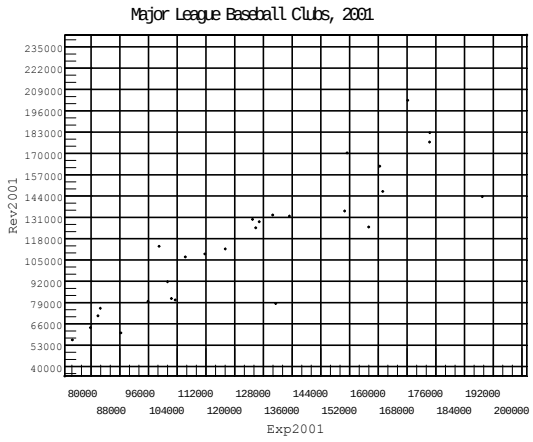
Figure 3: SAT scores soar despite sluggish funding of education

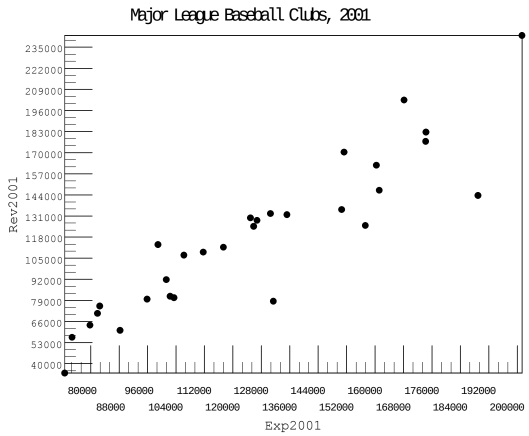


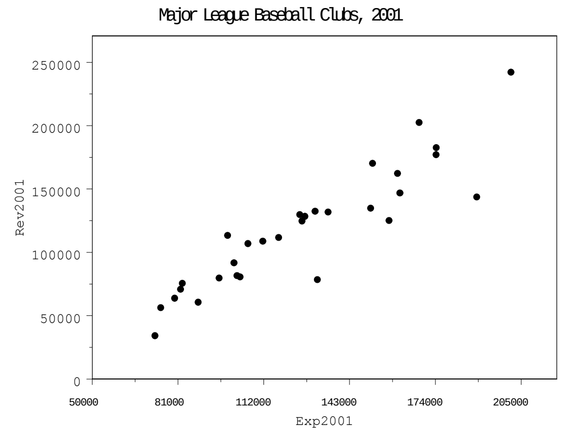
Graphical Displays Should…

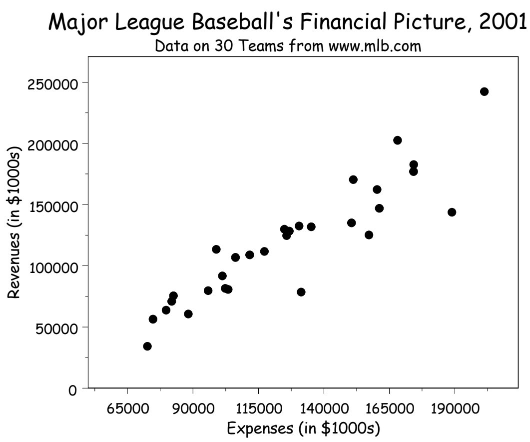
- Show the data.
- Induce the viewer to think about the substance of the data.
- Avoid distorting what the data have to say.
- Serve a clear purpose.

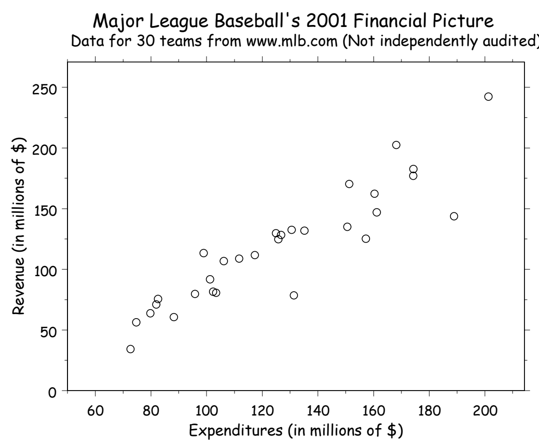
www.mlb.com/mlb/hearings/downloads/overview.pdf

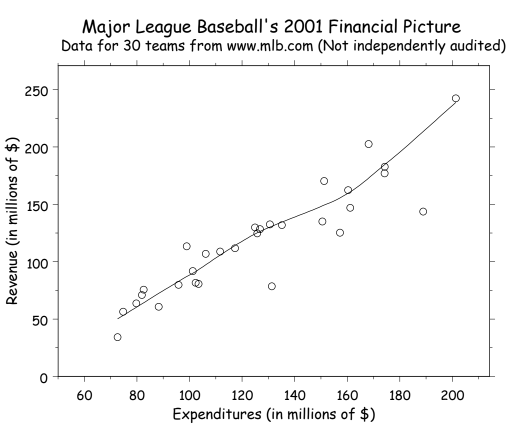


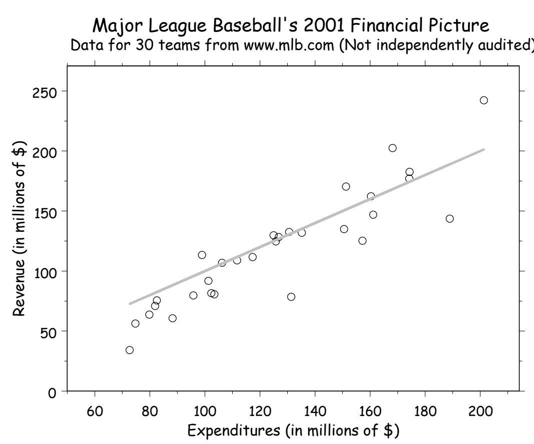

Major League Baseball Clubs, 2001
Rev2001
Exp2001


Major League Baseball Clubs, 2001
Rev2001
Exp2001


Major League Baseball's Financial Picture, 2001
Data on 30 Teams from www.mlb.com
Revenues (in $1000s)
Expenses (in $1000s)


Major League Baseball's 2001 Financial Picture
Data for 30 teams from www.mlb.com (Not independently audited)
Revenue (in millions of $)
Expenditures (in millions of $)


Major League Baseball's 2001 Financial Picture
Data for 30 teams from www.mlb.com (Not independently audited)
Revenue (in millions of $)
Expenditures (in millions of $)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Revenue (in millions of $)
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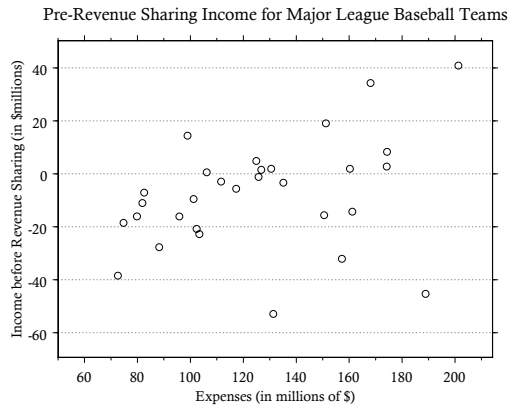
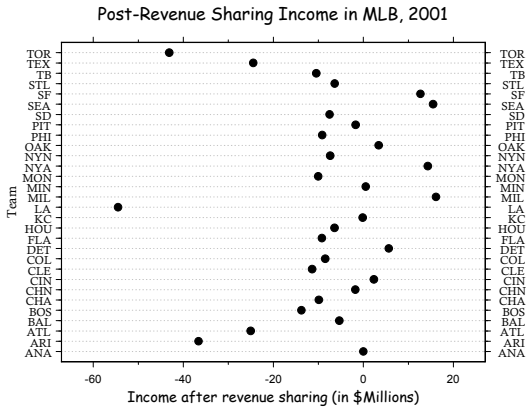
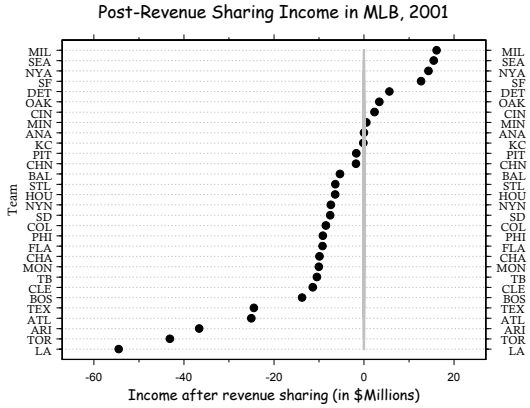






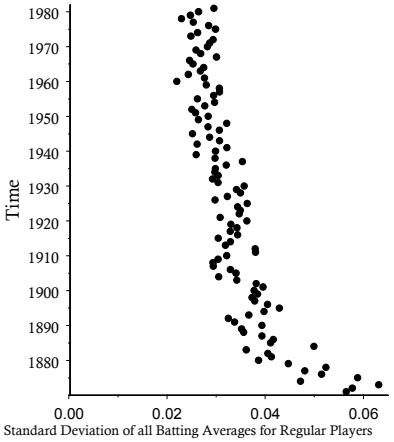
Make the data stand out.

- Don't let anything obscure the data.
  - Use visually prominent graphical elements to show the data.
  - Make the data rectangle slightly smaller than the scale-line rectangle.
  - Tick marks should point outward. Do not overdo the tick marks or grid lines.
  - Overlapping plotting symbols must be visually distinguishable.

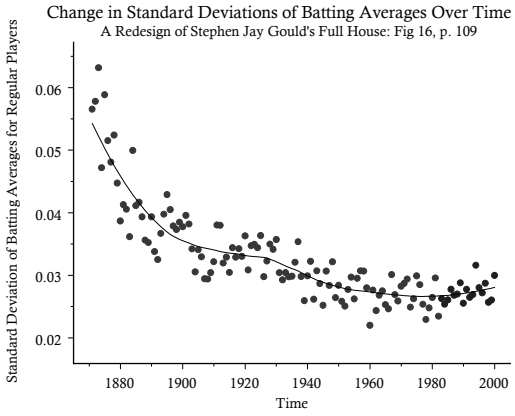
Make the data stand out.

- Do not clutter the interior of the scale-line rectangle.
  - Use a reference line when there is an important value that must be seen across the entire graph, but don't let the line interfere with the data.
  - Do not allow data labels to interfere with the data or clutter the graph.
  - Put keys outside the scale-line rectangle, and put notes in the caption or text.

SJ Gould Full House (1996), figure 16, page 109

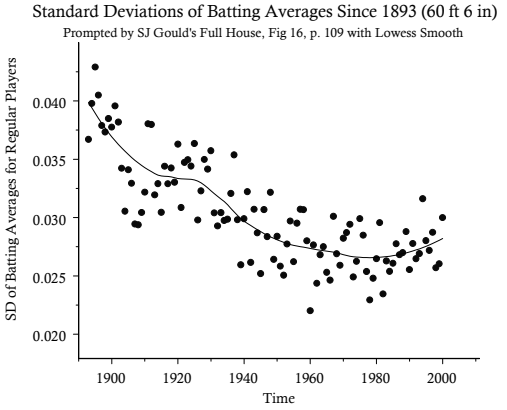


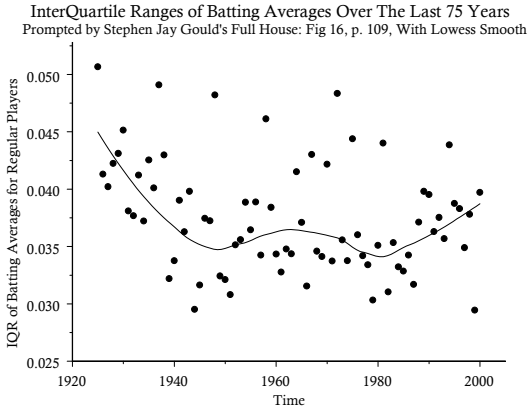
Redrawn to match Gould, S.J. *Full House* (1996), p.109, fig 16



LOWESS Smoothing

- LOWESS (Loess) = Locally Weighted Regression Smoothing
- Purpose – summarize the middle of the distribution of Y for a given X.
  - Produces smoothed Y values at any point on the X scale, then connects the smooths with line segments.
  - Smoothing parameter α requires judgment, or can automate this.





Checking for Covariate Balance: Large Tabular Presentations

Variable	(Rx) RP %	(Ctrl) RT %	Unadjusted Wald F (p)	Wald F (p) **adj. for PS**
Incontinent	3	8	12.2 (<.001)	0.09 (.76)
Impotent	21	38	36.1 (<.001)	0.85 (.36)
CHF	5	8	3.8 (.05)	0.20 (.66)
Lung Dx	7	12	5.7 (.02)	0.02 (.89)
Hypertens.	41	45	1.2 (.28)	0 (.98)
Angina	9	18	17.0 (<.001)	0.25 (.62)

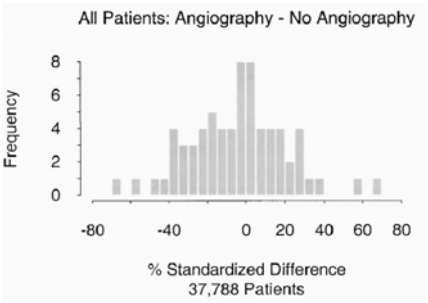
Adapted from Table 1 in Potosky et al. (2000) p. 1585

Does Matching By Propensity Scores Help Reduce Selection Bias?

Standardized Differences are an Appropriate Summary Statistic to Use in Assessing Covariate Balance

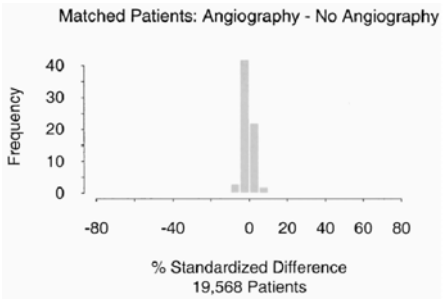
$$d = \frac{100\left(\bar{x}_{Treatment} - \bar{x}_{Control}\right)}{\sqrt{\frac{\left(s^2_{Treatment} + s^2_{Control}\right)}{2}}}$$

Standardized Differences (%) in Covariate Means: Before Matching

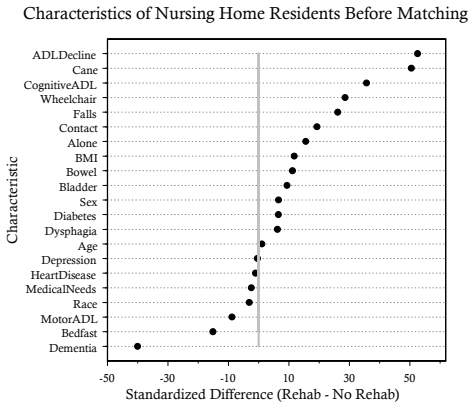


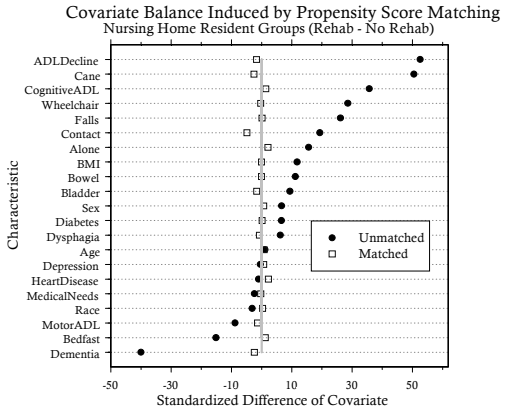
Normand et al. (2001) p. 395

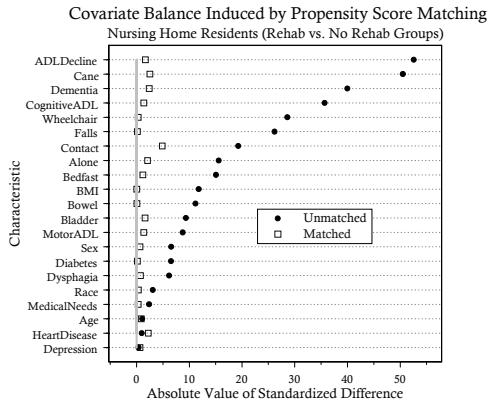
Standardized Differences (%) in Covariate Means: After Matching



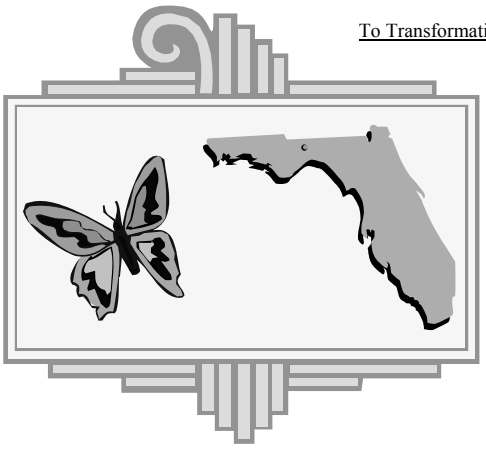
Normand et al. (2001) p. 395

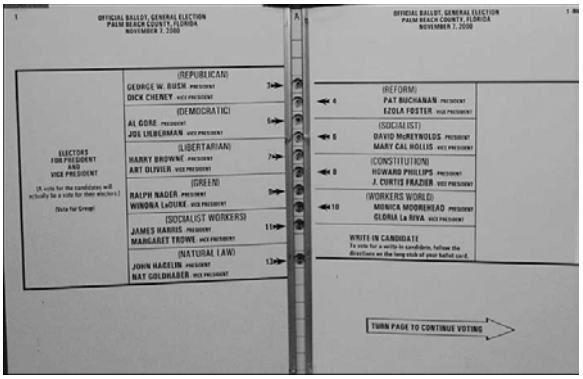




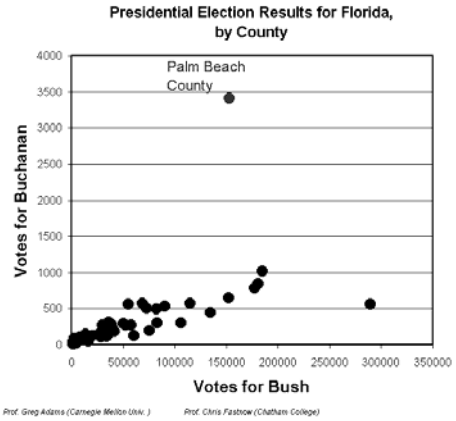


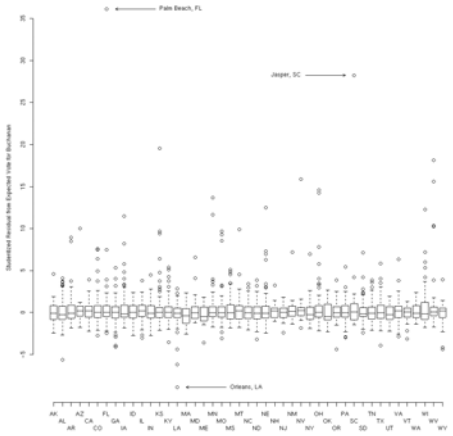
To Transformations





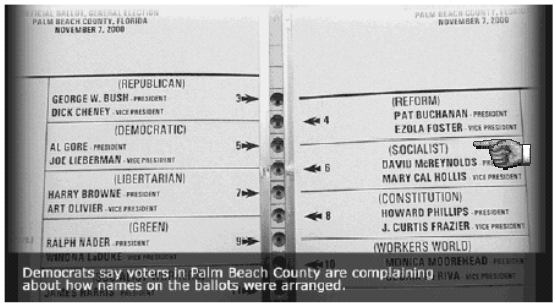
http://madison.hss.cmu.edu/
http://www.sun-sentinel.com/graphics/news/ballot.htm

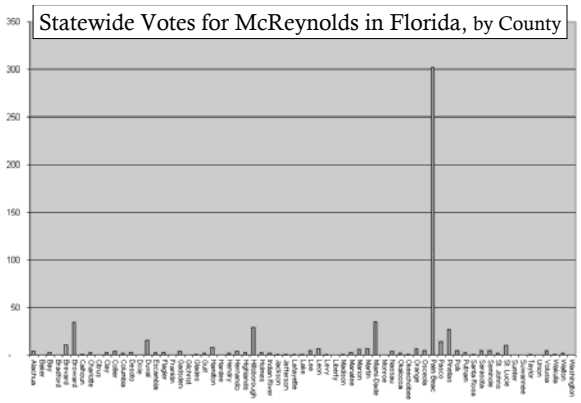




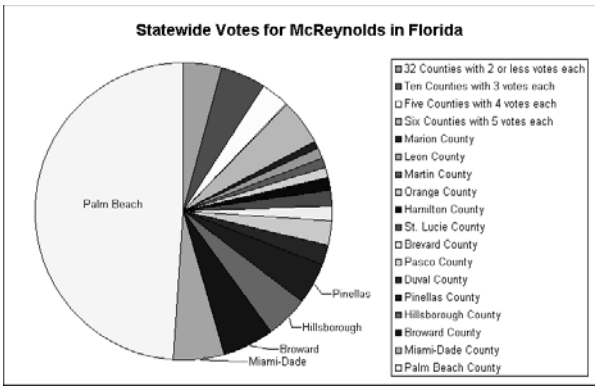
McReynolds Effect?

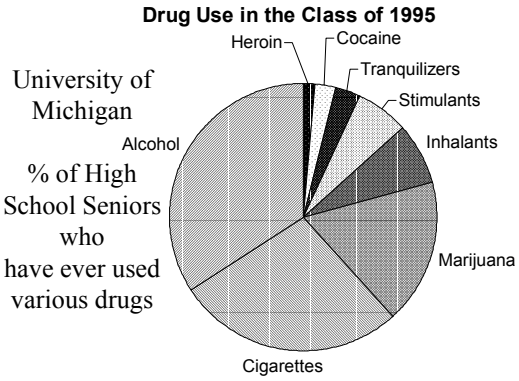
Sample ballot

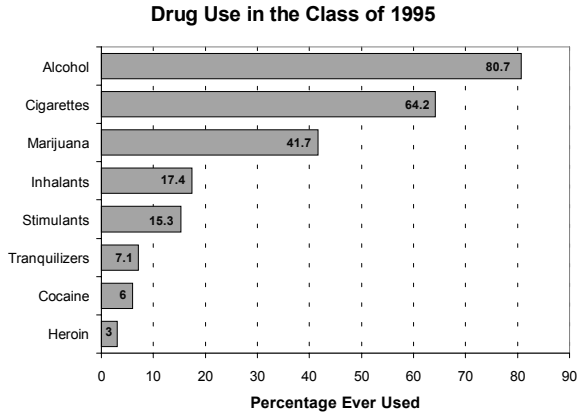




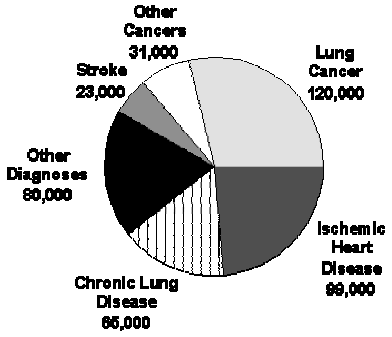
http://www.bestbookmarks.com/election/







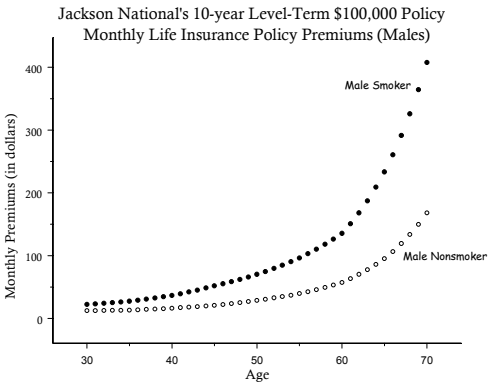
Deaths Attributable to Cigarette Smoking — United States, 1990

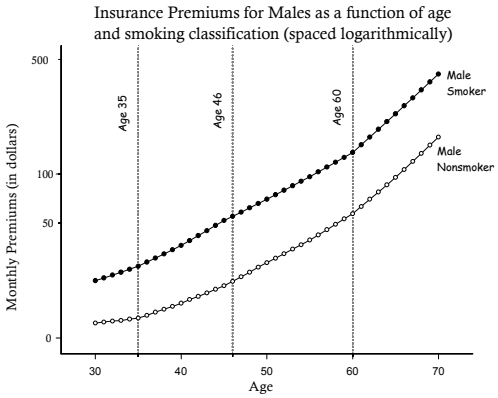


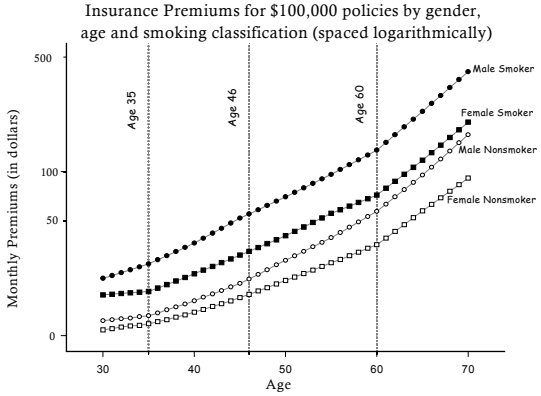
Source: CDC SAMMEC, MMWR 1993; 42:645-9.

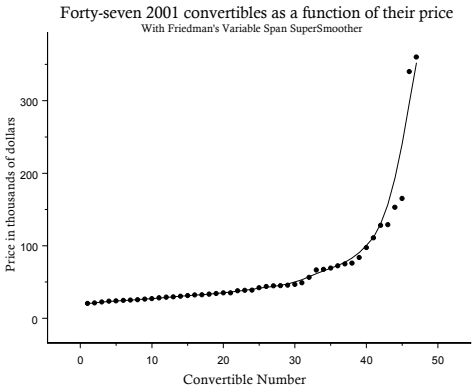
To Automation and ARC

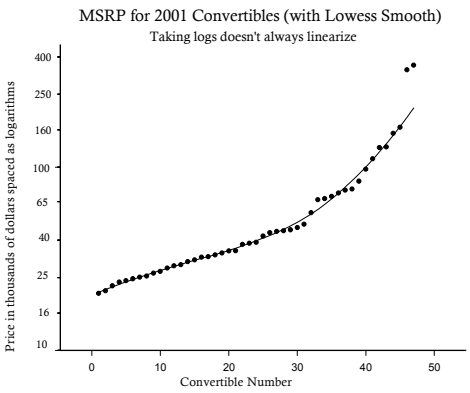
The Power of Transformations

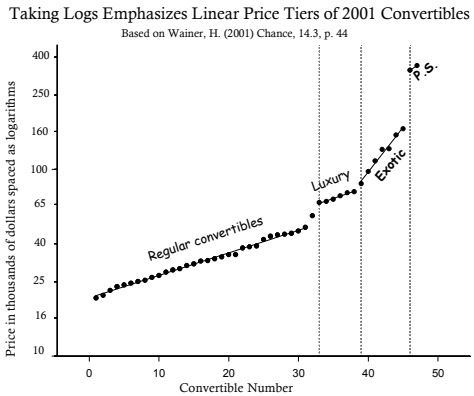

Jackson National's 10-year Level-Term $100,000 Policy
Monthly Life Insurance Policy Premiums (Males)
Monthly Premiums (in dollars)
Age
Male Smoker
Male Nonsmoker

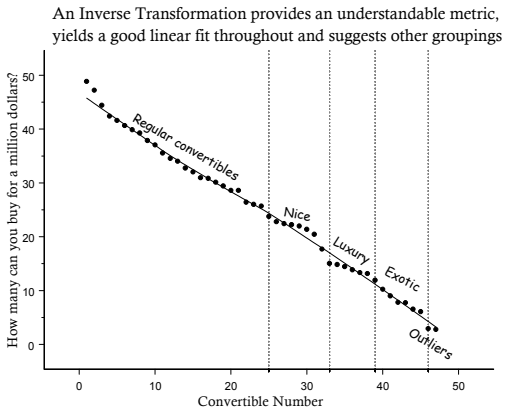

Insurance Premiums for Males as a function of age
and smoking classification (spaced logarithmically)
Monthly Premiums (in dollars)
Age
Age 35
Age 46
Age 60
Male Smoker
Male Nonsmoker


Insurance Premiums for $100,000 policies by gender,
age and smoking classification (spaced logarithmically)
Monthly Premiums (in dollars)
Age
Age 35
Age 46
Age 60
Male Smoker
Female Smoker
Male Nonsmoker
Female Nonsmoker


Forty-seven 2001 convertibles as a function of their price
With Friedman's Variable Span SuperSmoother
Price in thousands of dollars
Convertible Number


MSRP for 2001 Convertibles (with Lowess Smooth)
Taking logs doesn't always linearize
Price in thousands of dollars spaced as logarithms
Convertible Number

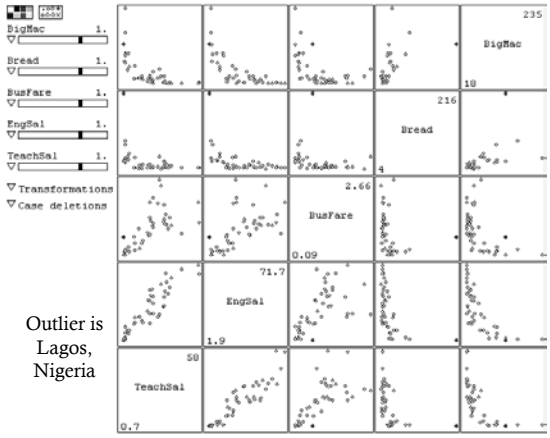

Taking Logs Emphasizes Linear Price Tiers of 2001 Convertibles
Based on Wainer, H. (2001) Chance, 14.3, p. 44
Price in thousands of dollars spaced as logarithms
Convertible Number
Regular convertibles
Luxury
Exotic
P.S.



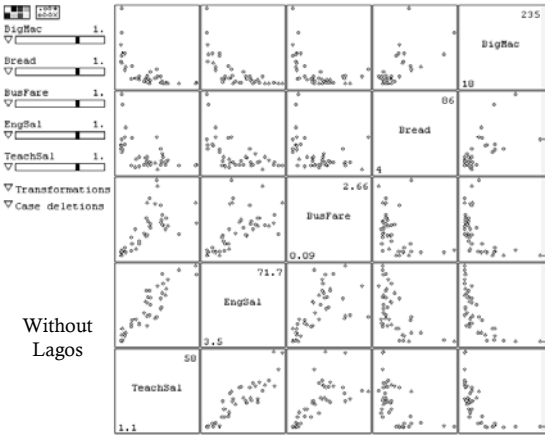
To More Graphical Arrays

Transformation, Scatterplot Matrices & Automation

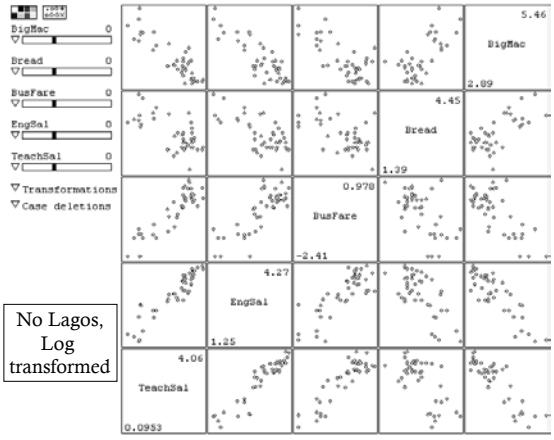
http://www.stat.umn.edu/arc/



Outlier is Lagos, Nigeria

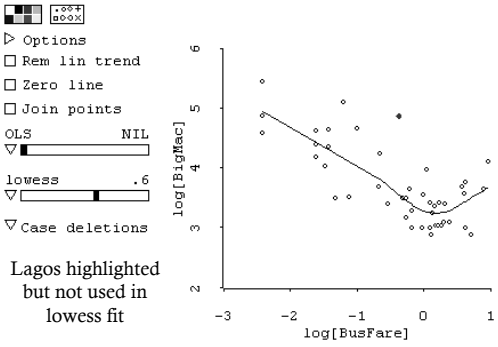


Without Lagos

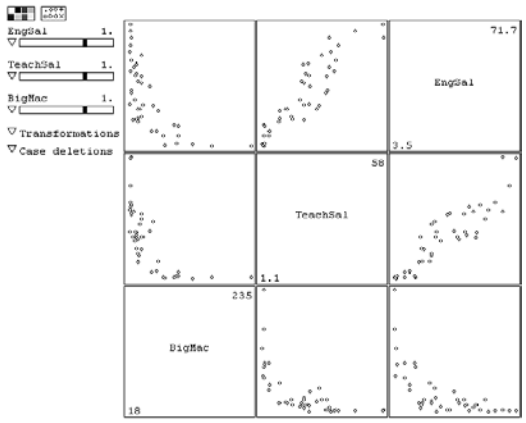


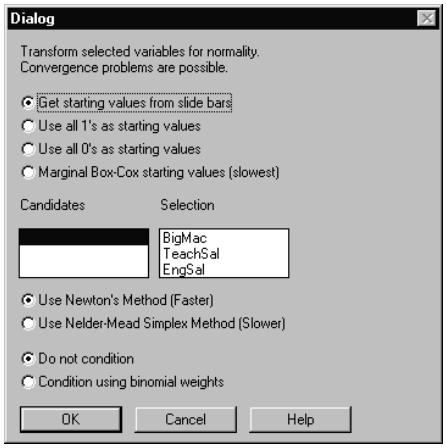
No Lagos, Log transformed

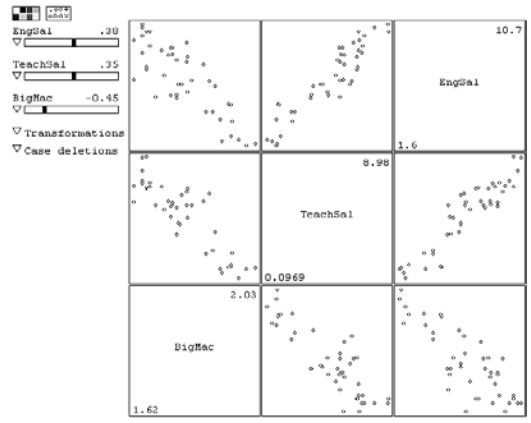
Zooming in on one plot

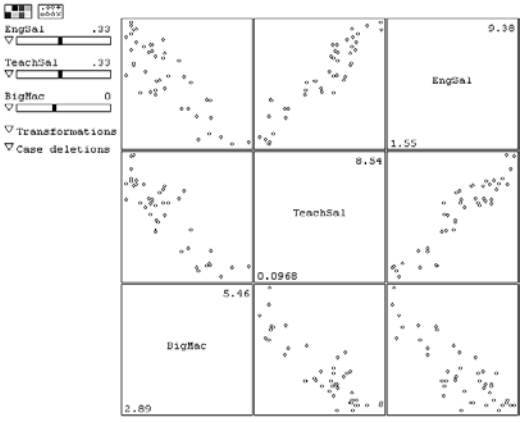


Lagos highlighted but not used in lowess fit



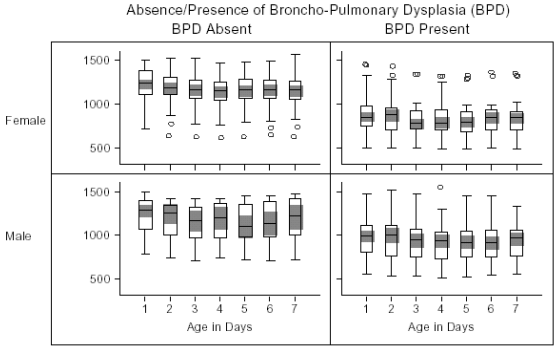






More Graphical Arrays

Observational Study of Infants in Neonatal Intensive Care
Distribution of Daily Weights by Gender and BPD Outcome



http://www.belmont.com/belweb2/software/cg/cg_examp/boxplot.pdf

Residual-Fit Spread Plots

- Fitted (predicted) values and residuals each have a distribution.
- An r-f spread plot compares the spreads of the residuals and the fitted values.
- Graphical analog to R^2 statistic.